DARLINGTON REVIEW

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EDITORIAL DEADLINE

Material for each edition of the Review must be submitted before 5pm on the 20th of the preceding month. Please keep Letter to the Review brief and include your name, address and phone number. Contact details will not be printed and you can request that a pseudonym rather than your name be used. Letters must be emailed to: editorial@darlingtonreview.com.au or placed in the Review box in the Post Office by the deadline date of the 20th of the month.

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EDITORIAL

Turning A House Into A Home (continued...)

After receiving very positive feedback from last month's edition and hearing from other locals excited to share their renovation experiences and future plans, I am delighted to continue the renovation theme into this edition of the Darlington Review. I hope it will inspire you to tackle those projects or give you peace of mind that others are going through the same thing.

Whilst there is something so breathtaking about a perfectly designed, bright and expansive space, in theory it is not easy to achieve. My own renovation journey has reminded me of how changing something so simple can become so complicated, and how makeover dreams can quickly develop into nightmares. After reading some of these stories firsthand from locals, one key takeaway has been to plan, plan and plan again before commencing any major works. It helps to take time between changes to assess whether what you imagined will still work in the space. Get a full structural inspection prior to moving to avoid any unexpected surprises. When needed, hire good quality and reputable contractors, because regardless of how much you save now, in the long run you will not thank yourself for it. Make sure to budget correctly and ensure you account not just for the known but the unexpected too. Overall, it appears that no matter what your first impressions may be, something will come along and alter those ideals so be prepared and stay flexible, but above all have fun and enjoy the journey!

A 45 Year Labour of Love

Theresa and David first moved from England to Perth in 1975 and bought their current home in July of 1979. Whilst Theresa didn't fall in love with the home at first, it was their adoration of Darlington with its luscious trees, semi-rural charm and spacious blocks that first drew them to this neck of the woods. Their house, a quirky two-story brick and timber construction with wooden beams from the old Fremantle railway bridge and workshops, instantly charmed David who saw its potential for change over time.

Neither of them had any renovating experience, but they found two reliable, fair and excellent local builders, who they still turn to for their building hiccoughs! Beginning in 1988, they started upstairs on either side of the original house by creating a studio on stilts with an angled glass wall, utilising large glass panels they had elsewhere, as well as adding another bedroom with shower ensuite. Downstairs they converted a large open space into six bedrooms and a new bathroom for extra children. Early on, they also converted an old pergola to a first-floor deck and added accessible French windows from the sitting room. The deck has since been widened and extended round the side of the house with a stunning 4.5m drop which can host a dinner party for up to 40 people.

In 2012, they added a four-sided raised cube with windows which created a lantern effect over their living area. For four months in 2014 they were reduced to "glamping" in their own house as they made the decision to extend over their garage and patiently waited for their spacious and bright new kitchen and an informal eating area. They replaced the old carpet with timber floors throughout, utilising some original 1979 floorboards they found, whilst still retaining the history of the new house with the old. Their most recent improvement has been the addition of an enchanting bow window in the master bedroom using art deco glass in three panels and plain glass in the other two.

Theresa and David have enjoyed watching the transformation of their space daily over the years and whilst they believe themselves to be inexperienced with their renovating knowledge and lack of planning, they have been thrilled with the outcome and owe most of their luck to carefully choosing the right builders. They urge you to follow your own heart with the renovations and designs, because you are the ones who are going to be living there.

Before and during Theresa and David's upstairs extension

Theresa and David's bright new kitchen

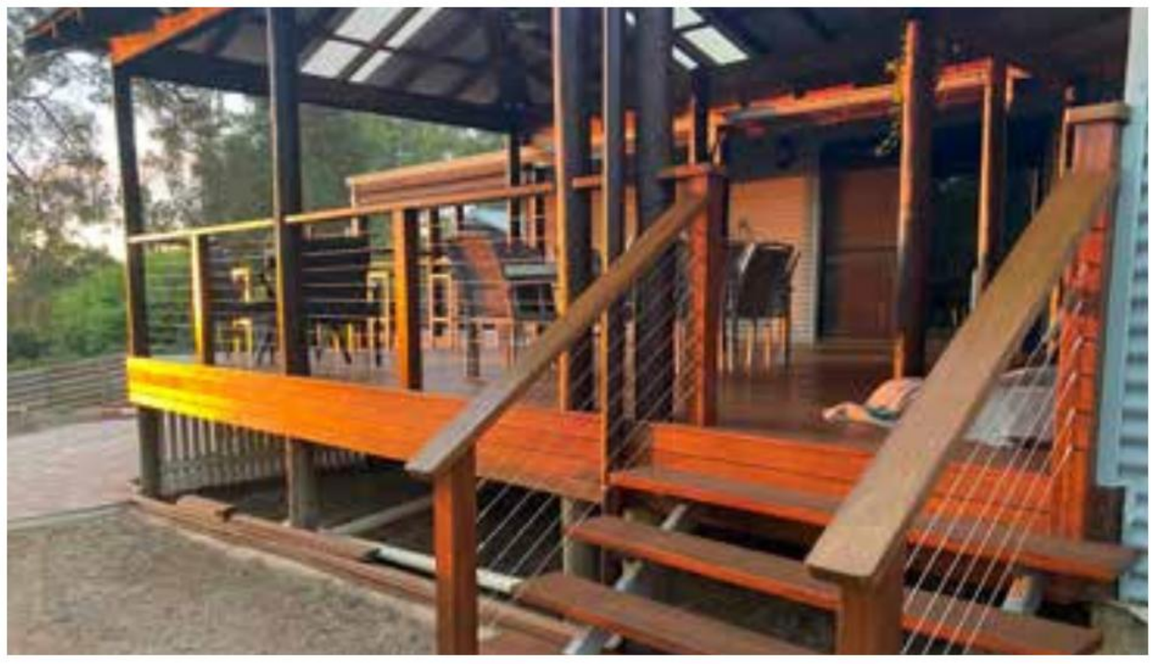
The New New Build

Shane and Lettie moved from Darwin to Perth in 2021, and like many people they assumed that Perth was all sand and surf; they had no idea about the beautiful hills that lay beyond the city suburbs. After making several unsuccessful offers on houses, they gave up for a while until a house came along that ticked most of their wish list. Whilst only finished in 2012, it was obvious that it had been built on a pretty low budget and they knew they were in for some work, most notably from the exterior. However, once they moved in, they quickly realised there was a lot more work than was originally apparent, and their list of needed improvements continue to grow. There was a major structural problem where parts of the floor were sagging due to insufficient structural support beneath the house, the water pressure was inconsistent and the whole house was very poorly insulated.

Shane is a motor mechanic by trade but has worked in construction and building maintenance for almost 30 years, as well as being an owner builder on two previous houses. Whilst Lettie doesn't have a lot of renovating experience, she is an avid learner, and her artistic flair has created some great results. They enjoy renovating wherever possible and only hire professional contractors where they don't have the skills, time or equipment to carry out the work themselves.

Starting with some basic jobs in every room to get the ball rolling, they spent the next 12 months getting a feel for what they wanted to do and planning their designs. They then set to work updating their kitchen and installing additional cupboards in the kitchen and laundry, as well as drawers and shelves in the walk-in-robe. They also had additional posts installed under the house to fix the sagging floor and walls. Outside, they had the driveway to the shed sealed with recycled asphalt, however this has been their biggest mistake as the product is not fit for purpose and will likely need to be replaced in a few years. They then replaced the old pine decking and balustrades with merbau timber decking and stainless-steel wire balustrades and built a bar to sit at and enjoy the views. They also spent a lot of time updating the landscaping by adding new stone retaining walls, garden beds, paving, gates and fencing, and repairing the septic system.

One of their biggest regrets was not having a full structural inspection done prior to purchase, as even a 10-year-old house can have its faults. Their favourite part has been the designing and planning, as they love discussing ideas and looking at different options. They suggest being very careful with planning and taking a pause between each change to reflect on how the space looks now. One of the hardest things for any DIYer is finding a balance to ensure that every free moment is not consumed by renovating. Another issue can be budgeting correctly and finding good quality contractors who can do the work to a high standard. Shane and Lettie have loved the satisfaction of doing much of the work themselves and seeing their ordinary house transformed into a beautiful home.



Before and after of Shane and Lettie's veranda and decking with their new bar overlooking the hills

The 1950's Blank Canvas

After living on the coast for a few years, Candice and Tom had toyed with the idea of moving somewhere more spacious for their growing family. When they came across their captivating house in the hills nearly eight years ago with its stonework and immense trees it reminded Candice of a little piece of home from Zimbabwe. Whilst they had a normal building inspection done prior to settlement, after living in the house for a little while they discovered quite a few problems which built up to a point where they needed to do something about it.

During the first few years they tried to salvage the house by fixing and maintaining what they could, however as the house was over 70 years old much of it was beyond repair. The roof had begun to collapse from white ant damage and rain would seep through, the windows either wouldn't close or open, there was no insulation, the electrical wiring was a hazard, the staircase treads were caving in, sewage system was full of tree roots and the list just went on. Just as Covid first came in 2020, Candice and Tom decided to start over and demolish most of the house, only keeping the existing stone walls, fireplace, front entrance and staircase. They also kept the jarrah beams and posts and re-used them throughout the new house.

The renovation took over a year, which was great considering the circumstances of Covid and nationwide material shortages. Their biggest struggle was cramming five people into a one-bedroom granny flat for 14 months. They didn't enjoy those rare instances where they needed to come up with a quick solution to something, unsure if they were making the right choice. Candice commends their key contractors who were incredible throughout the whole process, as they learnt the hard way that contractor recommendations don't always live up to expectations and their mistakes can be costly. They believe you

need to make sure you have the right people for the job and if necessary, wait to find those diamonds who become invaluable with their knowledge and expertise. They also advise renovators to have a clear idea of what you want the end product to look like, including having some material selections and colours ready to go and samples to try out. The whole process has been so interesting and all-consuming for them, and whilst they wouldn't do it again in a hurry, they are beyond thrilled with the end results. You can follow their renovation journey on Instagram @two_creeks_reno.

Before and after of Candice and Tom's bathroom renovations

Candice and Tom's house after their renovations

Old photos of Candice and Tom's house

The Hills Classroom

After renting and loving Darlington for two years, Danielle and her family decided to purchase a place of their own in Darlington amongst established fruit trees and nature. Whilst they didn't love the actual house at first, the block and spaciousness of the home drew them to it and over time they've come to love the 1970's aesthetic with its orange bathroom fittings. They had renovation experience with another property and decided their first order of business was to build a granny flat to accommodate Danielle's thriving tutoring business. They opted for a build to lockup, so they could take full control of the interior fit out where they utilised their star tradies. They wanted to take a financially responsible approach to their renovations and therefore the process has been done piece by piece, as they could afford each area, but each new stage has been a delight to see finished.

Danielle's new classroom

As the classroom nears completion, they have turned their attention to other areas and plans for the main house. They have already replaced the old carpet and painted walls, as well as leach drains and the collapsing septic tank. Over the next few years, they plan to invest in a serious shed, a patio for long table lunches, a greenhouse in the rock wall "ruins" and a concrete turning circle. Like others, they recommend investing in a group of wonderful tradespeople who may even become lifelong friends. Overall, whilst Danielle has loathed the constant building mess, she has loved bringing a room to life and seeing the families who come into the classroom enjoy the project as it has come together.

The Hidden Beauty

Before and during Cassandra and Dylan's laundry renovations

After living in the country for many years, Darlington offered Cassandra and Dylan everything they wanted with its charming town and tightknit community. Although the house was in a terrible state with timber props holding things up, they fell in love with its large open spaces, and the beautiful block of land with its stunning views and amazing features. The project wasn't for the faint hearted: it had major termite damage, no power supply, and its own special putrid smell.

Whilst Casandra has renovated several times, it was a first for Dylan. They had lots of help from family demolishing and repairing internal structures, as well as outside contractors, but they have also done a lot of work on their own. They had to start with a large portion of the house all at once to make it safe and useable due to termite damage, which has meant living in a constant renovation site. They have replaced all the outside cladding, and every window and door, as well as roof sheets. They replaced the old kitchen with a temporary makeshift one which allowed them to see how the space would work and how they could design the pantry, meal space and kitchen to work together.

Every morning, they love waking to the stunning views across Helena Valley from the new doors and windows of their redesigned master bedroom. They also installed a beautiful new walk-in wardrobe after it too had been eaten by termites. The laundry and one of the bathrooms are the most complete rooms in the house and offer them a beautiful sanctuary from the renovation mess and an insight into what the house will eventually become. Casandra's favourite room is what she calls the 'green room' which is filled with beautiful plants and offers a stunning transition between the house and the laundry. Another challenge came with undertaking the removal of the whole garden except the large trees, as the yard was filled with invasive species and the house itself had been hidden for more than 20 years.

Renovating can be difficult with full-time work, rising interest rates, long wait times and escalating building costs. Cassandra and Dylan do not believe in shortcuts and suggest taking your time and spending the money to get it right. They also make their own bespoke furnishings, recycle and repurpose wherever they can. The project has taken longer than expected and whilst much of the work has been hard, the house has become a more robust and one-of-a-kind design for them which will be worth it in the end. There are a number of spaces which need finishing, and they hope to add a studio to allow their creative juices to flow, as well as a pool area where they can enjoy their hard work.

They recommend planning ahead and staying flexible by having a backup plan whenever possible, as people will let you down and materials will run late. Also, use a whiteboard to help organise your ideas and find trustworthy contractors that understand your project and share your vision. They haven't loved the mosquitoes and bugs but were thoroughly entertained when a little quenda squeezed his way inside the house. They have loved designing and creating a home for the future and rescuing something valuable that could have been lost. Whilst they have learnt a lot, they believe it's important to stop and rest, something they aren't that great at doing. Ignore the mess, do not get sidetracked by all the things that need doing and try to focus on the task ahead, but most importantly, have fun and be kind to each other.

Dylan working on the vintage fireplace addition

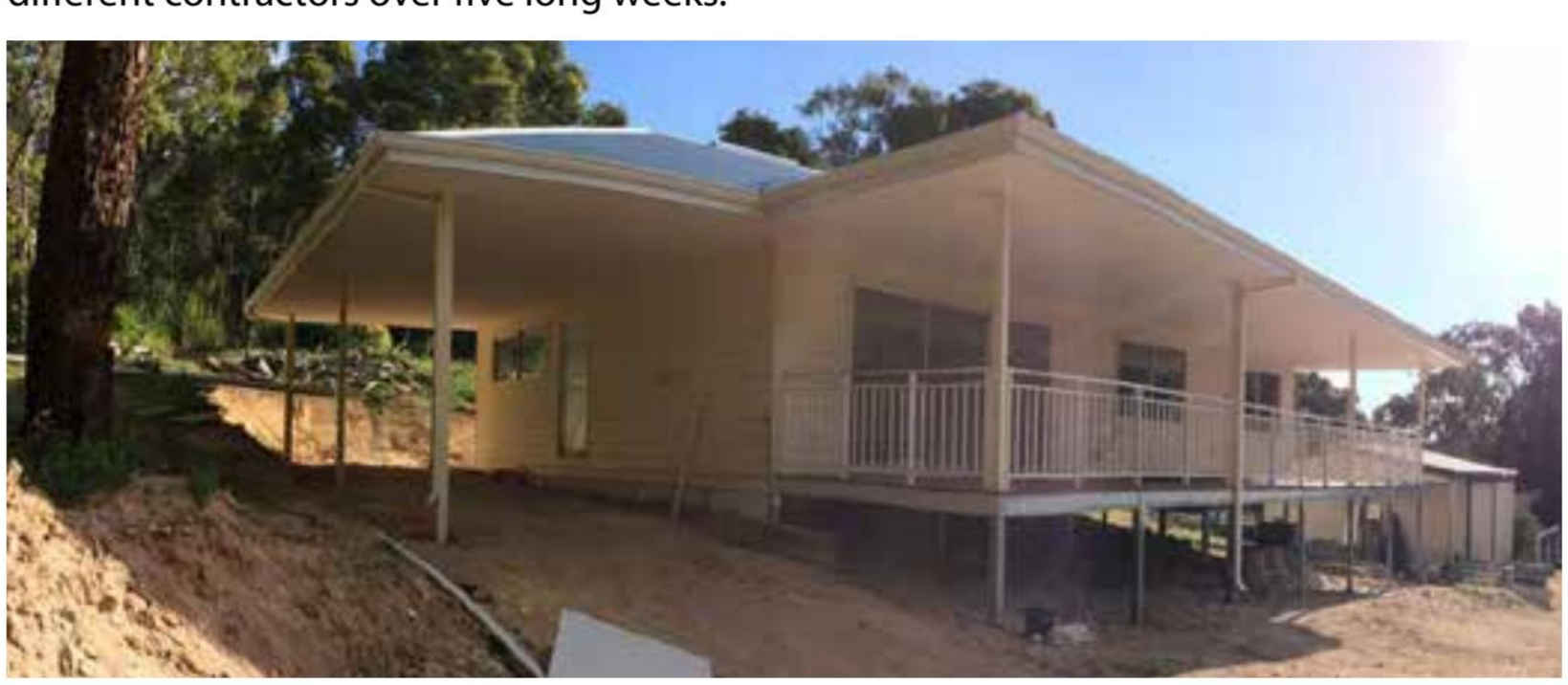
The Hunted Jewel

After spending a wonderful childhood in the hills, Rob steered Nikky away from city life to move here over 17 years ago and they haven't looked back. Every day they bask in the peace and outdoor activities that come from living so close to a national park. The home they are in now is their second in Darlington and it was an 18 month and over 50 home viewing hunt to find the perfect fit for their growing family and more space to accommodate their parents. They knew within minutes of looking at their now home that it was everything they wanted: a beautiful Federation home built in 1922 with some delightful features including lead light windows, jarrah floors throughout, high ceilings, an old-fashioned Aga stove, and multiple fireplaces.

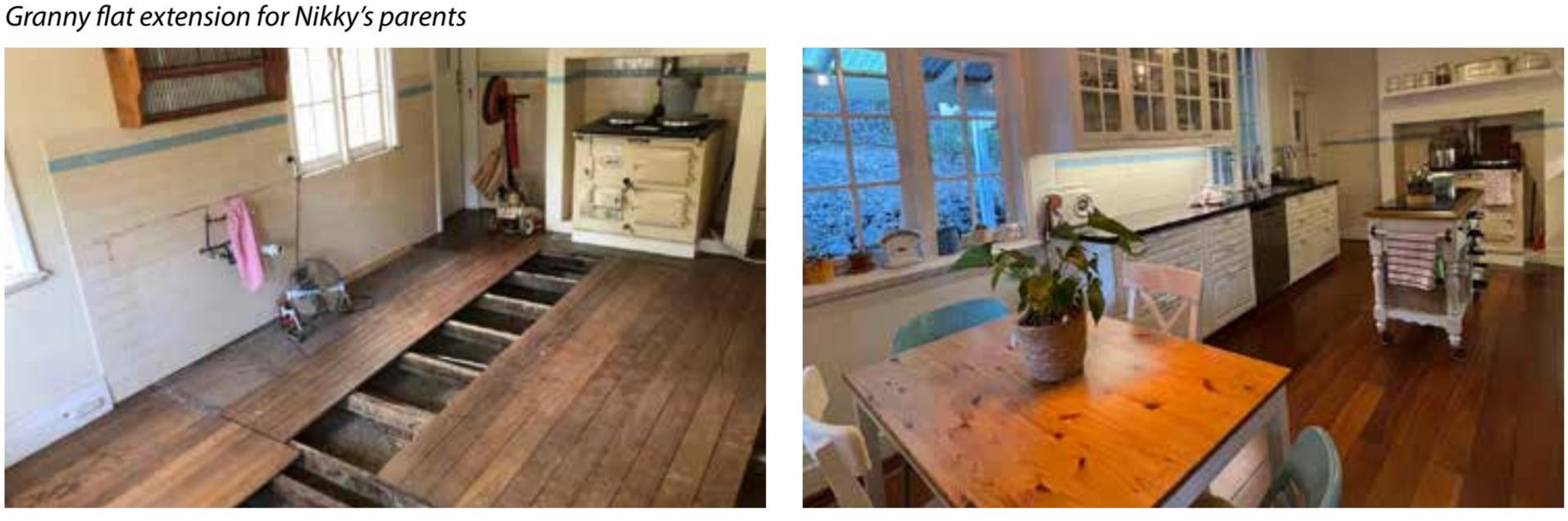
They knew the house would be a lifelong work in progress, however they were up for the challenge. Their biggest project was adding a granny flat which took two years of planning and ended up becoming a second house for Nikky's parents to live in. Their overgrown back garden has been Rob's labour of love which he turned into a large orchard, vegetable garden and chicken coop. With the help of an elderly craftsman, they removed the cream paint from the brick work on the front of the house to reveal a unique and beautiful tuck-pointed clinker brick, something he had only seen once before. As for the interior, Nikky began with one of their favourite rooms, an outdoor laundry which reminded them of their own childhoods. This needed to be completely gutted with new walls, ceilings and cabinets. The most substantial renovation has been to restump the rear of the house to prevent further cracks and uneven flooring, which involved an extensive overhaul of floorboards, doors, windows and walls, and coordinating eight different contractors over five long weeks.

Before and after of Rob and Nikky's bathroom renovation

At the same time, Nikky felt it was a good time to throw in a full kitchen renovation for good measure and Rob was happy to watch the chaos unfold. Unfortunately, stress mounted as it came just before the first Covid lockdown and Nikky found herself begging the plumber to fix the plumbing in time. They spent a lot of time living with their parents and in a caravan on the driveway in order to make their dreams come true. Nikky and Rob did much of the grunt work and finishing touches to save money, but as they both work it has meant a lot of 'almost finished' jobs. They urge others to remember that it will take longer, and cost more than you expect but don't compromise on quality if you want to love the outcome. Talk to your neighbours who have renovating experience so they can advise you on the best path, especially when it comes to getting Shire approval. Their only regret is not taking before and after photos to see their progress. Whilst Nikky is unsure if she loves renovating itself, she loves the end result and the bright space of her favourite room, the kitchen. Rob's favourite is the garden, which is perfect as he grows and Nikky cooks, which allows for a beautiful combination as the two spaces work together perfectly, just like they do.



Granny flat extension for Nikky's parents



Nikky and Rob's kitchen before during restumping and after the renovations

What's News!

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to our newest members **The Perth Hills Climate Change Interest Group**. They look forward to sharing their thoughts, informing and educating the local community about climate issues, and working collaboratively with others who share their passion. They are always keen to welcome new members and encourage you to visit their website www.phccig.org or follow them on Facebook @PerthHillsClimateChangeInterestGroup.

Whilst Darlington isn't in the catchment for this invasive pest, it has been detected in Swan View so it is still worth keeping an eye out for this polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) which has made its way to some of our neighbouring communities across Perth. A beetle native to Southeast Asia, it attacks a wide variety of plants by tunnelling into trunks, stems and branches and killing vascular tissue causing Fusarium dieback and tree death. For more information on what to look for, visit www.agric.wa.gov.au/borer or call the Pest and Disease Information Service on 9368 3080.

What to look out for with the invasive polyphagous shot-hole borer

Important fire information

As Ricky Harvey observes in his brigade notes, the Restricted Burning period would normally begin in April but due to a continuing dry autumn and recent fires in Mundaring and Swan View (see Councillor's Column as well) it's important you check current info about Burning Restrictions because the Shire may withhold the issuing of permits - so check the Fire Weather Hotline on 9290 6644.

The Review can follow you…!

You may be planning to leave Darlington for a new home elsewhere but, clearly, it's hard to leave it behind! "I'm back in Darlington most Saturday mornings," says former resident Phil Vile (initiator of Let's Talk Rubbish, and well-remembered for his work with DRRA and FODs) "and I always pick up a copy of the Darlington Review!" If you're planning to decamp to the flats or Down South, you can take the Review with you – either read it online (www.darlingtonvillage.org) or take out a subscription to ensure the magazine drops into your mailbox wherever you are. Annual subscriptions are $77. Contact Business Manager Betty Pitcher: business@darlingtonreview.com.au or 0408 912 101.

Want to know what's happening at local meetings but can't always get there? Have a read of Meeting Points after the editorial to keep up with local issues.

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Coming up in May

Next month we welcome local journalist Sarah Brookes who will be in the Editor's Chair for the May issue. An award-winning journalist who writes for WAToday (Fairfax digital news) has lived locally for many years and is a familiar face on the editorial team.

And the work begins…

Members of the Darlington Arts Festival left their AGM last month elated, with several new committee members joining the team. But, as DAF Secretary Chris Pemberton reports in their notes, they need more! The DAF executive remains in the trusted hands of President Amy Pepper and Vice President Tania Whisson, with Jodie Hutton as Treasurer. We wish them well as they begin the long run-up to our biggest event of the year.

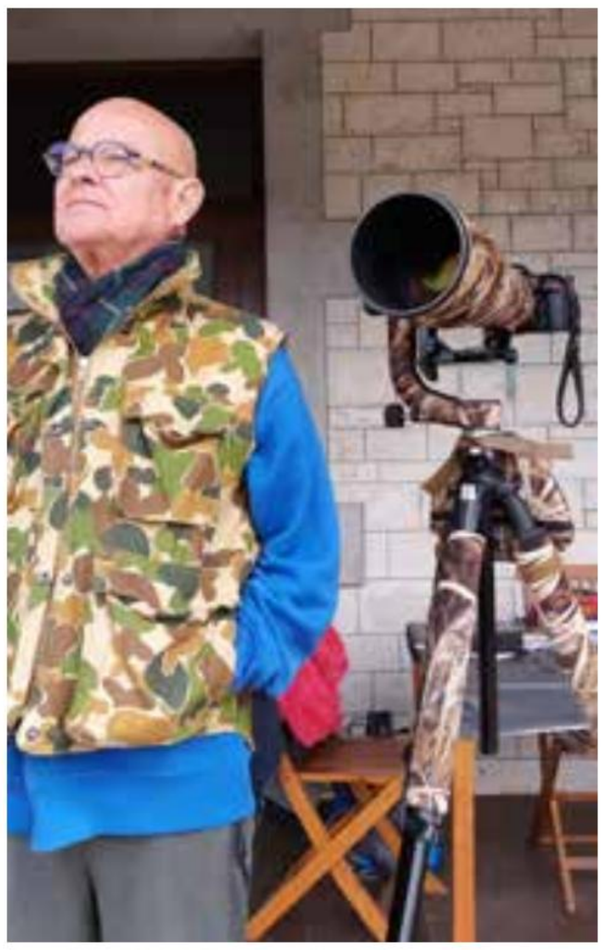
Former resident Phil Vile enjoying a recent birthday party organised by his Darlington friends

Upcoming Events

The popular **Gourmet in the Park** will once again take place at Morgan John Morgan Park in Glen Forrest on Sunday 7th April from 10am to 3pm. Bringing together the best collection of gourmet food and beverage trucks, market stalls galore, as well as tastings from local wineries and distilleries. Bring your picnic rug and enjoy your gourmet delights whilst relaxing to live entertainment and activities.

The Youth Fest will conclude the Summer of Entertainment events at the Harry Riseborough Oval on Friday 12th April from 12pm to 3pm. The area will transform into a vibrant hub of energy to celebrate Youth Week WA. Young people aged 12 to 17 can enjoy a live DJ, skate clinic, Laser Skirmish, Gaming Trailer, Virtual Reality, Bungee Trampolines, Pedal Kart Racing, Art and Craft, a free BBQ and more!

Willem Heyneker's interest in photography was ignited whilst taking images of his jewellery for magazines, articles, and exhibitions. His photography brings together his love of wildlife, and his passion to bring the plight of endangered Red and Whitetail cockatoos to the general public's awareness. His latest Black Cockatoo exhibition features images taken in various locations including his home in Darlington. Willem is fundraising for Carnaby Crusader's Dean Arthurell and Vitabunda's Clint Connor to create awareness and education around these amazing birds. There is a VIP event at the grand opening followed by workshops on both weekends for a gold coin donation.



Willem Heyneker and his photograph of a black cockatoo

Venue: Studio 281, 31 Ferguson St, Maylands WA 6051

Dates: Saturday 18th May - VIP morning 10am to 12pm $40

Open to the public from 12pm to 5pm;

Sunday 19th May from 10am to 5pm;

Monday 20th to Thursday 24th May from 10am to 3pm;

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th May from 10 am to 5 pm.

Contact Chantal on 0414 386 882 to find out how you can support this event or follow us on Facebook @BlackCockatooFundraiserExhibition. The event is being sponsored by Demeter Wealth, Camera House Midland, Perth Hills Events, Unfold Your Freedom and Mr Matthew Hughes MLA.

My family and I have been fortunate enough to call Darlington home for 18 months now and we have never looked back to our dull life in the suburbs. During the week I help guide and educate the next generation as a primary school teacher at our local Treetops Montessori School.

Marie Sherwood | April Editor

Letter to the Editor

Stacey August (Darlington's Tree Custodian) writes:

This story starts with my gasp of shock on Monday night the 12th Feb when I saw the desiccated and drooping leaves on the young oak on north side of the oval. Oh no oh no… please, please not on my watch.

Other trees were also struggling after the consecutive days of 40 degrees. They hadn't been watered this summer. Using the long hose from the tennis club, I watered them on Tuesday 13th. Faith Cruskall had donated the hose and used to water all 14 of the trees on that north bank one summer a few years back. A call out was made on the Darlington Hub for people to come and water the tree if they were passing. Delightfully, lots of people responded.

Sue Lennard and Norm Anderson installed agricultural drain pipe into vertical holes in some root zones to allow better water retention; Nathalie Welsh organized more hose and more people at Tuesday night tennis; Brendon Thompson continued his general policy of being a Great Help, Theresa Harvey and her husband started watering another tree and maybe even now, continue to do so; Betty, who is already supporting two of the Bradford pears near Owen Rd made a brave attempt with her trolley to water them but rested easy when she found out how much support the trees had; Sonja Parker, Jim Wheeler, Louise Stelfox watered on their evening walks.

A person named only Elizabeth offered support to Nathalie and hopefully might even water next summer. I bet there are people who watered who have not been mentioned here. My partner Richard reckons he saw human after human watering the tree from their drink bottles on Wednesday evening. When I heard, I got shivers up my back.

The trees around the oval and hall, are our trees, and the birds' and insects' and lizards and fungi and mycorrhizae's. We are a part of It All. We are part of the Trees. We breathe their breath. Our oxygen is their exhalation.

The little oak is flourishing. It is astounding. New growth in the harsh summer. You did it, you mob.

Regards
The Lorax

Meeting Points

Multiple issues were discussed at local meetings last month – including the new look Mundaring town centre coming our way; the way ahead for community representation; and how one developer has won plenty of Hills friends (you're right, his name is not Satterley!) Trea Wiltshire reports.

A meeting of minds…

Trees haven't fared well at a couple of meetings beyond Darlington – particularly as this blisteringly hot summer takes its toll.

First off, the Royal Agricultural Society of WA proposed axing three mature Showground trees to accommodate an event (the council refused and the Society and Cirque du Soleil found 'a layout solution'). The next example was closer to home with neighbouring Kalamunda abandoning its year-old tree retention policy, with one councillor branding it "a weapon against its own people".

You have to be glad we live in a place where trees are valued and where a 'meeting of minds' resulted in a small miracle last month as locals noticed that trees on the oval bank were struggling. To the rescue came Tree Custodian Stacey August with a Hub plea that brought tree-lovers from every direction. The result? That sad little oak (and several of its companions) has a new mantle of vivid greenery. Read The Lorax's letter. It will lift your spirits.

Mundaring revitalised!

For those who prefer Mundaring to Midland for the week's shop, it's been exciting to watch Mundaring Shire officers and Councillors explore the idea of configuring a more vibrant community/cultural town centre.

Mundaring has a distinctive, country town charm: shade trees and beds of roses in a laid-back low-rise shopping centre, a small arts centre with a big reputation, a knock-out fruit and veg shop and a couple of favourite cafes, one in the centre, another nestled under trees in a side street. However, it's easy to see the potential for co-locating the Shire's valued community services while creating opportunities for mixed residential/commercial development to offset costs and boost local jobs. The trick will be to design such developments so they don't appear 'alien' to the townscape/landscape in which they sit.

The centrepiece, a three-storey multipurpose building, will accommodate the library/toy library, art centre, child health clinic, meeting rooms and commercial units.

Stage one of this ambitious project was unanimously endorsed by Councillors at their March meeting. The $20 - $25m budget will also see the upgrade of the amphitheatre, streetscaping etc. Federal grants will be sought, and with President Paige McNeil and Deputy Trish Cook heading to Canberra for July's Local Government Conference we suspect they'll make a formidable lobbying team. There's more in the Councillor's Column.

Development downsize applauded

At the March meeting the gallery was full of Save Perth Hills (SPH) supporters applauding (along with Councillors) a developer who listened to the community, heard the widespread fears about a townsite in a semi-rural, extremely fire-prone landscape – and has downsized his proposal from 740 to 67 Rural Residential lots – pretty much what Hills residents would love to see Satterley and the Anglican Church do with their North Stoneville proposal.

"The local community will never accept any developer putting profits ahead of community safety," emphasised 20-year-old Stoneville resident Cloe Williams – one of many packing the gallery when Councillors unanimously recommended approval of the North Parkerville development opposite Satterley's proposal.

In the gallery were those who have lost homes or had to evacuate on narrow rural roads during fire emergencies, so the fact that every North Parkerville property will have a fire-fighting tank acknowledges that summer fires are an ever-present danger. There's more in SPH notes about the 'war chest' needed for the next chapter of the North Stoneville saga.

Open minds and good ideas

At the recent meeting of the Darlington Community Recreation Advisory Group (DCRAG) it was good to see animated discussion and open minds in finding a way forward that rethinks the workings of our major community groups, the Darlington Ratepayers and Residents, DCRAG and the Darlington Sport and Recreation Association. Former Councillor David Lavell put up his hand to act as chair and a workshop is being considered to add to ideas presented by Chris Arnold (see Guest Column, December issue). There's more in DCRAG Notes.

Pine Terrace concerns

Speed dominated the last DRRA meeting with several Pine Terrace residents expressing concern about a road that sees the to-and-fro of brigade trucks, junior sports, seniors strolling and dog owners gathering. While a Shire traffic count revealed most travel at 50kph, speeds as high as 80 were recorded. One thing everyone can do is to buy (on line or at auto shops) a bin poster like this one in Hillsden that reminds drivers of the many kids that walk, scooter and ride on our roads. Check out DRRA notes.

Darlington Ratepayers and Residents Association (DRRA)

"Preserving the character of Darlington and safeguarding the interests of its ratepayers and residents - Since 1909"

SAVE *the* DATE

11 April 2024 at 7.30pm | **DRRA** Public Meeting at Darlington Hall. All welcome.

Much of our March meeting involved discussions about speed, risk of accidents and pedestrian safety in Darlington following concerns by community members regarding Coulston Road, Darlington Road and Pine Terrace.

DRRA had the benefit of the attendance of Clinton Kleynhans (Acting Director of Infrastructure Services) at the Shire of Mundaring (Shire) to discuss the above.

He answered many questions regarding traffic issues, and some of the ideas put forward by attendees and Clinton for community feedback or action include the Shire:

- checking the roadside vegetation along Coulston Road (near Mandoon Close) to see if the overgrown vegetation is obstructing the line of sight for drivers exiting Mandoon Close and/or Saw Drive. *(This was actioned by the Shire almost immediately. See the photo below with pruned and removed vegetation).*

- reviewing line of sight issues re the above roads and investigating whether there is a need to request Main Roads WA to reduce the speed limit.
- installing mobile traffic count units when they become available at locations on Coulston Road and Darlington Road.
- acknowledging that bin stickers for residents with "slow down" messages may be a good idea.
- investigating the possible installation of temporary variable message board trailers in different locations to advise and remind motorists of the speed at which they are driving.

DRRA extends it thanks to Clinton for his professional input and for his proactive response to the issues raised at the meeting.

DRRA will also be considering whether there is merit in making a submission to the Shire as to whether a 40kmh zone should be implemented from Owen Road to Orange Road or View Terrace on Pine Terrace bearing in mind the need for safety in a built up area that consists of tennis courts, shops, café, playgrounds, an oval, carparks, winding roads, the fire station, and the Glen.

If you have any concerns re speed and traffic issues in other areas or streets in Darlington, please email us the details.

General Updates

- DRRA understands that the installation of the long-awaited seats on the Pine Terrace side of the oval may be commencing in late March 2024.
- DRAA submitted capital works requests to the Shire in February 2024 which included requests as to:
  - o improvements to the Owen Road crossing (outside the Hive)
  - o the construction of a new BBQ near the Darlington Hall
- the Shire is progressing discussions with stakeholders regarding the proposed works (i.e. improved pedestrian access and safety, traffic calming, landscaping, etc) at Owen Road (near the Hive).

April Meeting

Matthew Hughes MLA, Member for Kalamunda will be attending our April meeting.

This will be a great opportunity for Darlington residents to meet Matthew and to raise any matters or concerns which residents feel the state government should address. Matthew is our representative in State parliament and can raise your concerns, issues, and ideas with relevant Ministers.

Councillor Updates

Deputy Shire President Trish Cook attended the meeting to provide general Shire updates including:

- in principle support as a referral agency for a significantly scaled down version of the North Parkerville development (fewer lots, larger lot sizes).
- endorsement of a $25 million budget parameter to advance the initial implementation phase of the Multi-Purpose Community Facility project in the Mundaring Townsite.
- implementation of $800,000 upgrade works (i.e. change rooms, admin areas) to Bilgoman Pool.

Issues you Wish to Raise

As a Darlington resident, you may have an issue or concern that affects you personally, your street, or Darlington generally.

It is often more effective for issues and concerns to be raised with local or state government authorities or agencies by a community organisation rather than by an individual and DRRA can make submissions on behalf of residents on a collective basis.

If you have a concern or issue, tell us about it and DRRA will see if it can assist or make submissions on your behalf.

Membership Benefits

Knowing and participating in what is happening in your community, knowing what planning decisions and infrastructure projects are proposed for Darlington, and being able to have an input in Darlington's future is rewarding and benefits the community.

DRRA membership is $15 per person per annum.

NEEDED

DRRA is looking for a secretary as a member of its Executive Committee to take minutes of meetings, email members with meeting agenda's, etc.

Please email DRRA at **drra@darlingtonvillage.org** if you are interested.

Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

REMEMBER

000 is the **ONLY** number to ring for all fire and smoke sightings.

- **The** ComCen **will page our members who are on duty.**
- **For general Brigade enquiries please ring** 9299 7217. Station hours: **Saturday 9am-10:30am.**
  Web: **darlingtonfire.org.au** • Facebook: **Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade** • Instagram: **dvbfb_**
- Next Brigade meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at the Darlington Fire Station.

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD 2
1 April to 31 May (inclusive)
Permits to burn are required for all burning during this period.
Note that small amounts of garden refuse may be burnt without a permit after 6pm, see conditions.
Due to unseasonal weather conditions the Burning Period Dates (right) may be extended or shortened. If unsure, please contact the FIRE WEATHER HOTLINE on 9290 6644.
Shire of MUNDARING

April 1st would normally see the Shire of Mundaring move to the first Restricted Burning period for 2024, but at the time of writing additional restrictions and/or conditions were being considered. The Shire may withhold issuing of permits until further notice. Please contact the Shire, check their website, or call their information hotline on 9290 6644, to confirm the current restrictions, find out about any bans in place, and check for updates. We will also endeavour to post notifications on our Facebook page. During the Restricted Burning period permits to burn must be obtained (when available) for lighting ALL fires BEFORE 6pm, for all 'running' fires, and for piles bigger than 1m². Permits to burn for Darlington and surrounding suburbs will be available, when authorised, via the Shire of Mundaring website, or from the Darlington Fire Station on Saturday mornings between 9am – 10am.

During any Restricted Burning period some small fires, of garden refuse ONLY, may be lit AFTER 6pm without a permit, under strict criteria, including;

- the pile of garden refuse being burnt does not exceed 1m²
- a 5 metre wide area, clear of flammable material, surrounds the pile
- the fire is lit only between 6pm and 11pm
- only one pile is alight at any one time
- the fire is completely extinguished by midnight (NO heat, smoke, steam, white ash)
- at least one able bodied adult is in attendance, at the fire, at all times
- there is a means of extinguishing the fire available at all times (e.g. garden hose, knapsack spray or fire unit)
- neighbours are informed of your intention to burn
- the smoke does not cause a nuisance to neighbours or create a traffic hazard

The ongoing hotter temperatures, with only sporadic rain, means the continued risk of bush fires leading in to autumn. Our long, hot summer has left fuel loads very dry, and it might take some time for autumn and winter rains to penetrate surface fuels and soil, especially with long periods of fine weather in between. Remain vigilant and continue to look out for signs of fire, and call 000 immediately if you see smoke or flames. Report suspicious activity to CrimeStoppers on 1800 333 000. And if you are conducting fuel reduction burns on your property please follow all State and Local Government regulations, the details of your permit, and exercise the utmost caution.

"Don't be a Fool! Change your smoke alarm battery" on April 1st. If you hadn't remembered, now is the time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms as only working smoke alarms can save lives. DFES urges householders to change smoke alarm batteries on April 1st each year, and also to test their smoke alarms regularly. So if you haven't already, change your smoke alarm batteries today as it could save your home… and your life.

Here are some smoke alarm facts;

- Smoke alarms require replacement approximately every 10 years.
- It is LAW that property owners install mains powered smoke alarms BEFORE they sell or rent their property.
- Current regulations require smoke alarms to be hard wired, and interconnected.
- We encourage the use of long lasting alkaline batteries to ensure smoke alarms work properly.
- Smoke alarms require regular cleaning – check smoke alarms for a build-up of dust and cobwebs and clean with a vacuum cleaner.

Sunday March 17th saw the Brigade take on the Darlington Social Cricket Club in the annual Hughes-Burns Trophy match. With the cricket club batting first they amassed 266 runs from their allocated 40 overs on a beautiful afternoon for a hit. With the Brigade taking to the crease for the second innings the run chase was on. Thanks to a captain's knock and a 6 in the 38th over, we sealed the win with 6-270, being rewarded with the Hughes-Burns Trophy for the first time in many years.

"Something that has always puzzled me all my life is why, when I am in special need of help, the good deed is usually done by somebody on whom I have no claim." ~ William Feather

Ricky Harvey

Darlington Bushfire Ready Group

How Do I Keep Informed?

Street contacts will also be a meeting at the Fire Station on MONDAY, 6th May at 7.30pm. Interested residents are also invited to attend and learn more about being prepared. DFES have indicated the fire season is far from over, so important to keep our properties with low fuel, gutters cleaned, and BE PREPARED. Have your BUSHFIRE PLAN ready.

Take these four steps to help you keep informed about bushfires and emergencies near you. **Get connected** – connected communities are safer communities.

- Join a Bushfire Ready Group to get to know the risk in your local area
- Keep in contact with neighbours, friends and family, especially during high fire-risk days
- Talk to your local brigade about how to prepare for a bushfire.

Stay alert – if you can see or smell a bushfire – that's your warning Your surroundings could be the best source of information. If you live in, or near bush, you need to stay alert. If there are signs of a bushfire you could be in danger. Act immediately to keep you and your family safe.

Understand that no warning system is foolproof. Remember, fires can happen suddenly and change quickly, so don't rely on receiving a warning. It's your responsibility to stay informed and alert. Be flexible – get emergency information from multiple sources and never rely on any one source of information.

Monitor official warnings. During an emergency monitor what's happening. You can find bushfire alerts and warnings at: www.emergency.wa.gov.au OR 13 3337 (13 DFES),and also at the Shire of Mundaring. **www.mundaring.wa.gov.au or 9290 6666**.

Stay alert to what is happening around you, and put your Bushfire Plan in place. If needing any information on what to do around your home, come down to the Fire Station on a Saturday morning between 9.00am and 10.00am.

Councillor's Column South Ward | Cr Luke Ellery | Shire of Mundaring

At the time of writing, smoke is billowing up from Red Hill as another bushfire rages this season. Over 120 firefighters are battling a blaze that currently threatens rural homes, farms, and vineyards in Herne Hill. While I hope for the best, the outcome is yet uncertain and my deepest sympathies are extended to any affected residents of our neighbours in the City of Swan.

We can reflect on the response to the recent Parkerville fire and the Hills storm. These events highlighted the vulnerability of our communications; something our President (Paige McNeil) and Deputy (Trish Cook) will lobby hard for in Canberra. The response from emergency services, the community and the Shire was impressive. The Parkerville fire was immediately reported, escalated, and the swift response brought the blaze under control. Council extended rate relief to affected families and the Lord Mayors Fund had surplus funds to extend aid. The evacuation centre was frequented by compassionate community members distributing care (I believe my mother's profiteroles made an appearance). Such responses fill me with hope.

In March, Council unanimously supported a Rural Residential subdivision application for the North Parkerville townsite. The subdivision to 69 rural residential lots as opposed to the original proposal for over 700 lots represents a shift towards more sensitive development in our Perth Hills. Council has requested the applicant and Department of Planning continue consultation with the Shire to ensure a better balance between bushfire risk management, biodiversity conservation, nature sensitive Public Open Space and contribute to the upgrade of local roads outside of the subdivision area.

Council also unanimously endorsed a $20-$25 million budget for the Mundaring Multi-purpose Facility while noting the priority to secure external funding to maximise benefits for our residents and ratepayers. This was a massive change from the near $70M facility previously budgeted that hoped for $40M in Federal funding but risked leaving the Shire with a debt we could not afford (well above treasury thresholds).

The Facility will include an arts gallery, visitor centre, local history museum, contemporary library and toy library, community health clinic and shared community spaces. An important element will be the inclusion of commercial spaces to help offset some servicing costs.

Artist Impression of the new facility

While doorknocking in Darlington, issues of traffic on Oxley Rd, Darlington Rd/Hwy intersection and the changes to the bin collection were recurring. I wish to reassure the community that Council does hear these concerns. Regarding waste, Council is currently working hard to consider a way for these changes to be made in a compassionate and sensitive manner and to minimise disruption to residents.

Perth Hills Climate Change Interest Group Inc

Perth Hills Climate Change Interest Group are new to the Darlington Review and welcome the chance to share our info and thoughts with local people.

We grew from a sub committee of Mundaring In Transition to become an Incorporated Association in May 2020. Our focus is mainly on the Perth Hills, advocating for action on climate change, informing and educating about climate issues, and working positively and collaboratively with groups and individuals who share our passion for climate action focus. We are independent and non-partisan.

Some of our activities in the last couple of years have included:

- Taking part in the national Dirty Dozen campaign, delivering letters to the Perth-based fossil fuel company offices, posting social and print media releases and meeting with politicians.
- Holding Climate Action Stalls at the Mundaring Rotary Markets, Kalamunda Farmers Market and at the Save Perth Hills rally, along with a social media campaign about the Safeguard Mechanism.
- Partnering with Solutions for Climate Australia to advocate for big fossil fuel polluters to do their fair share of emissions reduction. Met with local federal politicians, were represented at a meeting of Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) members with MPs in Canberra.
- Collaboration with Climate Network Australia, the Australian Conservation Foundation's Perth and Darling Range Communities, the Conservation Council of WA, Doctors for the Environment, Citizens Climate Lobby, the Nature Reserves Preservation Group and a network of local and Australia-wide environment and climate action groups throughout the year on a range of campaigns
- Regular newsletters to more than 250 subscribers
- Compiling Federal, State and Local government advocacy papers outlining key climate related issues and solutions
- Advocating strongly to State and Federal MPs to support the Shire of Mundaring with their project to change streetlights from incandescent to LED lights and reduce emissions by 38%.

You can learn more about us on our website www.phccig.org and follow us on Facebook. We are always keen to welcome new members. There are many small, manageable actions and tasks you can help with to advance our goal of climate change action in the Hills.

Email: phccig@gmail.com

www.phccig.org **Facebook**

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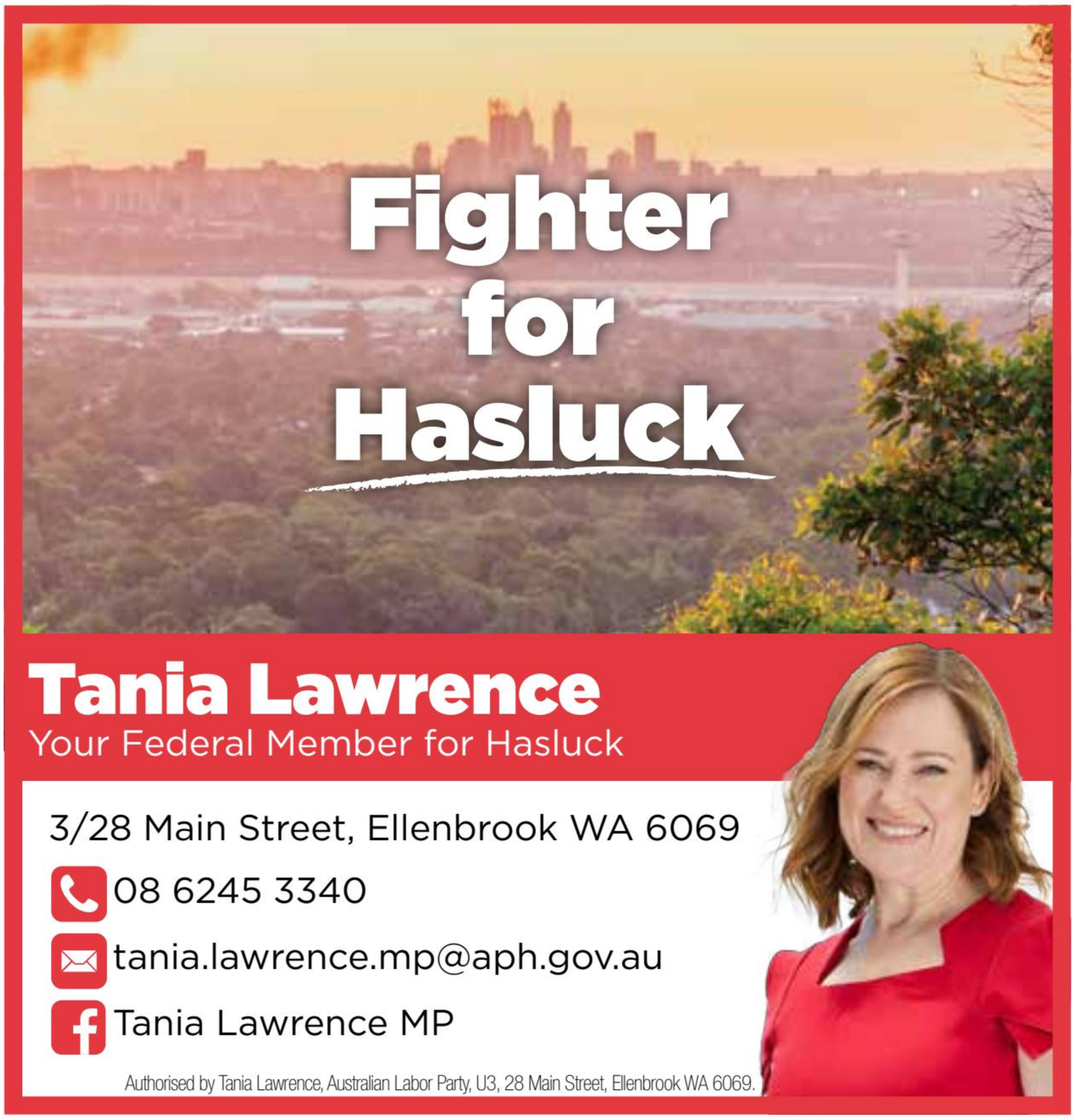
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Safe Technology for Seniors

With an increasing number of government and essential services rapidly transitioning online, technology is playing an increasingly significant role in daily life.

Through a series of initiatives to improve digital literacy and foster inclusion, the Albanese Labor Government is working to ensure retirees and older Australians have the help they need to successfully navigate the migration to a more digital world.

Be Connected

Central to these efforts is the $42 million *Be Connected* Program. Tailored specifically for Australians over the age of 50, this program offers free digital literacy training and provides essential devices to empower seniors to navigate online platforms with confidence.

From managing online banking to scheduling telehealth appointments, the program equips older Australians with the necessary skills to access essential services conveniently and securely.

The *Young Mentors* initiative within the *Be Connected* Program offers a unique approach. Under this program, secondary school students are given the opportunity to serve as digital mentors for senior Australians, fostering meaningful intergenerational connections while empowering young people to develop valuable teaching and communication skills.

The recent funding extension for the *Be Connected* Program ensures that an additional 300,000 older Australians will benefit from the program's resources.

With support extended to 3800 community organisations across the country, including Mundaring Library, Gidgegannup Men Shed, Mustard Seed – Teaching Technology in Glen Forrest, Helena Valley Lifestyle Village, Boya Library.

Scam Awareness

In addition to improving digital literacy, the government has made encouraging progress in reducing online and telephone scams.

In its second quarterly report the new National Anti-Scam Centre, established by the Albanese Labor Government, revealed a remarkable 43% decrease in scam losses from October to December 2023 compared to the same period in 2022.

Moreover, there was a 38% decrease in losses attributed to investment scams, a 74% reduction in losses related to cryptocurrency, and a 31% decrease in losses via bank transfers.

Remember, always make sure you know who you are dealing with and don't give out personal information if unsure.

Stay Safe Online

The Albanese Labor Government is committed to assisting retirees and seniors and bridging the digital divide in Australia. Through initiatives like *Be Connected* and the establishment of the National Anti-Scam Centre, older Australians have the opportunity to equip themselves with vital digital skills and knowledge to stay safe online.

To access the *Be Connected* Program visit https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/

To learn more about how to avoid online and phone scams visit https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/

Darlington Community Recreation Advisory Group (DCRAG)

While the Shire of Mundaring decided to sever its formal "Advisory" relationship with the Darlington Community Recreation Advisory Group [DCRAG], the DCRAG meeting in November 2023 decided that there should be a group to continue the good work that had been achieved over more than 50 years. In accordance with that decision, Delegates came together at the most recent meeting 26 February 2024 for two purposes:

1. To hold DCRAG's AGM as an interim move to ensure there is an organisation to continue DCRAG work. At the meeting community representatives Ceri Kitely, Trea Wiltshire, and David Lavel were appointed to the Committee with David Lavell, OAM, elected as Chair and Colin James continuing as Secretary.
2. To consider how the Darlington Community might be best represented in the future in its consideration, planning and implementation of desired recreational and other projects and activities.

Following the election of an interim Committee Chris Arnold was invited to present his PowerPoint vision of a potential structure. He noted that the aim of the presentation was to promote discussion and subsequently point a direction for representative and action organisations that serve the community roles now and into the future. Chris also reflected that community roles are changing and his proposed conceptual framework provides for that change, as well as ensuring the excellent work currently undertaken by DRRA, DaSRA and DCRAG, continues to deliver benefits to the community.

Those present asked many questions to ensure they understood the proposed concept, and that the Darlington community will continue to be well served in whatever final decision is reached. To form a Way Forward it was agreed that the next step should be at least one Workshop to take the findings from this meeting that would work up a more detailed proposal, clarifying roles, responsibilities, procedures, and operational matters.

To take the findings from this meeting forward Delegates appointed Chris Arnold and Geoff Barker to meet and discuss the formation of a Workshop planning group and terms for deliberation during the workshop, then circulate the proposed details to Delegates seeking confirmation prior to making final arrangements for the workshop.

Colin James
Secretary DCRAG

ADVERTISEMENT

Matthew Hughes MLA JP
Member for Kalamunda Electorate

Contact your local MP:

Kalamunda Office:
Shop 9, Kalamunda Central
Railway Road, Kalamunda WA 6076

Mundaring Office:
Wednesday - Friday 9am to 12
By Appointment only
3/7160 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring
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Authorised by D.Faragher, Ground Floor 108 Swan Street Guildford WA 6055

Save Perth Hills

It's been Go Go Go for the Save Perth Hills' team over the past few weeks!

We're full swing into our 33rd year of opposing dangerous and destructive urbanisation of 550-hectares at so-called 'North Stoneville.'

Some significant decisions have been made recently which bring us confidence - and hope, that after three decades, our Community's concerns, along with our vision for sustainable planning that safeguards, not endangers the Perth Hills, are being heard.

Firstly, Urban land developer EastCourt has abandoned their 30-year 'Urban' plan for 190-hectares of land called 'North Parkerville', which sits opposite 'North Stoneville'. In January, EastCourt presented a **Rural Residential** plan to the local Community. Its original Urban plan comprised around 740 suburban style lots. The revised Rural Residential (RR) plan offers a significantly reduced 67-lots, of 5 acres and larger and - a fire fighting tank on every property. This is a far cry from the long-standing inappropriate 'Urban' intention of this site, which clashed with the surrounding amenity of semi-rural Hills' properties.

On March 12, Mundaring Shire Council heard numerous community deputations supporting the Rural Residential approach at North Parkerville. Save Perth Hills stated that:

- "The revised plan satisfies the long-standing local Community – **and** Council, desire for appropriate planning that enables investment in the Hills, brings economic benefits to our Shire, safer social outcomes, better environmental results, and an aesthetic balance with our Hills' amenity that maintains the diversity of Hills lifestyle living, while, importantly, recognising 21st Century challenges of increasing bushfire risks with inclusion of fire-fighting tanks."

20-year-old Stoneville resident, Cleo Williams, told Council their decision would be about her future, saying the Rural Residential approach symbolised many things, including:

- "A suburban developer accepting that Urban planning has no place in the Hills, that 'Climate Change' is running rampant through our Hills making Urban development a very dangerous reality for residents – and developers, and that the local Community will never accept ANY developer putting profits ahead of people's safety."

Council voted unanimously to accept the Residential Rural plan for North Parkerville, which now goes to the WA Planning Commission (WAPC) for final assessment in about 6 weeks.

Meanwhile, back in the 1990s world of 'Satterley-land', Australia's biggest private land developer persists, along with its business partner, WA's Anglican Diocese, to overturn relentless rejections of its outdated and dangerous North Stoneville Urban plan.

SPH were back in the State Tribunal on March 8, for another 'Directions' (legal) hearing with the WAPC and Satterley. SAT ordered the WAPC – and Satterley, to provide SPH with copies of their formal approach to Satterley's PUBLIC, Tribunal Appeal hearing. This is a significant outcome for SPH because the documents will enable us to determine whether we will seek to formally 'intervene' at the appeal.

No date has been set for Satterley's appeal, but SAT noted the extended time Satterley is taking and the continuing burden on the public purse.

So, legal fees loom – meaning we're rattling the tins!

Bendigo Bank's Community Raffle is on again – with ALL proceeds going to SPH!

$5 a ticket –for a chance to win $20,000!

If you'd like to sell a book of 20 tickets, contact us at saveperthhillsinc@gmail.com

We've also launched our new SPH stickers telling Satterley to **STOP!**

You can grab one for a small donation at the next Rotary Markets at Mundaring's Sculpture Park on April 7th or – email us!

We also gratefully accept donations to our Bendigo Bank account - BSB 633 000 – 160715942.

And remember, plastic bottles can turn into cash for us via Containers for Change! 'Save Perth Hills number - 10307279'.

We seriously appreciate your support to help Save Perth Hills!

A Thriller and Dinner

One of the last games of the Darlington Social Cricket Club season is the Captain vs Vice Cap-tain match, and it was a delight.

As you'd expect from a game where all participants are current members and great mates, the play was competitive and fast-paced (for us anyway), with a lot of good-natured sledging and superhuman efforts to appear nimble and youthful.

The Vice's team batted first and with some very tight bowling from Cliff Williams and Shaun Meredith plus a good catch or two from our noble captain, the Captain's team felt they were in front at the 20 over mark having the visitors 3 for 115 at drinks.

The Vice's team had other ideas, and by the time the 4th wicket fell at 148 in the 24th over the game looked wide open.

Enter Steve Durkin. From his first ball which rocketed to the boundary, to his last ball which disappeared into the pavilion off his own brother's bowling, Steve completely dominated proceedings and set his team up with an excellent score of 274 in the searing afternoon heat.

When the captain of the Captain's team (and the club in general) fell for just two runs, things were looking as dark as his language walking back to the sheds. Fortunately a few old hands stepped up, along with a brilliant 50 from new member Andrew Grivas, to steady the ship and accumulate runs. Suddenly the game was in the balance again.

And there we were. Captain's team needs 4 runs to win, 3 runs to draw the match. Dan Ryan from the Vice's team, bowling to Shaun Meredith. The ball snakes down the pitch and Shaun hits a beautiful flick pull right in the gap between deep mid wicket and fine leg. The ball is racing to the boundary, Shaun is watching as it goes, but out of pages of history steps a double team-play for the record books. Craig Van Der Laan and John Taylor reel in Shaun's perfect hit, throw it back and run out the Captain's team to win the match.

A game for the ages was matched only by an evening for our memories, with 70 wonderful club members sitting down to a long-table dinner of steak and red wine, masterfully prepared by the triumphant Shaun Meredith. It was a day of much laughter, chagrin, toasts and foolishness, and we relished every moment.

The Darlington Review has been praised in State Parliament. It is a well-loved institution informing and binding the community since the 1950s - and it's the very best advertising option, along with word-of-mouth.

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Disclaimer: The Darlington Review's Rules of Association (2012) read: *"To produce and publish a monthly journal with the intention of fostering goodrelationships within the Darlington community and keeping residents informed about community issues."* Our *Guide for Scribes* invites members to submit notes "to inform members and the Darlington Community about past, ongoing and future activities…". The Review accepts no liability for errors/omissions contained in articles, statements or advertisements published herein. The views expressed in Letters and Notes are not the views of the Darlington Review and we are not responsible for them. Members are requested to ensure their notes adhere to the magazine's guiding spirit of fostering harmonious community relationships. The Darlington Review is available in digital format via *Issu*, the online website.

Darlington Sports and Recreation Association Inc.

DARLINGTON FILM

In previous Reviews we have mentioned that DaSRA is Auspicing the making of a Darlington Film which explores the History of Darlington and the importance of "Community". We have the combined support of the Darlington History Group and the Darlington Ratepayers and Residents Association and fund raising has been progressing. So far we have raised $9,000 of what is expected to be a larger Budget.

We are seeking form the community access to family short films that show Darlington and people in places in and around Darlington. Due accreditation will be given and we will arrange the Digitising of the film for the Owners to keep. These historical records are important to keep and provide a unique insight into the life and times of our amazing community. Please contact Geoff Barker if you can assist in any way. Geoffbarker52@gmail.com or 0418 953 176

BUY-A-BRICK

Also there are now LESS THAN 10 Bricks left for allocation on the Foundation Wall inside the Pavilion. If you haven't got yours yet then now is the time a plaque can be arranged by going to the website darlingtonpavilion.com.au

NOISEBIN

By now you will know that DaSA has auspiced the NoiseBin. It is now ready to be installed in its agreed location. The date for the momentous day is 16 April 2024 in the morning.
It is to be Managed by a Local organisation, with the Bin emptied

by the Shire Contractor on an as needed basis. The existing shelter will be retained in its current location

A big THANK YOU to the Team: Graeme Gordon, Gus Skene, Kevin Norris and Ian Crawford.

For the full story, visit the **noisebin.org** website!
We're still looking for help with our Python code and producing the library of sounds.

ACTIVITIES:

A Water Drinking Fountain is still a project in progress. Assistance with Concreting and concrete would be appreciated

More news next month.

Darlington Arts Festival

A very successful DAF AGM in March resulted in all but a couple of positions being filled and our heartfelt thanks to those who are not continuing on the committee - Gabrielle Morris, Amanda Moore, Jody Oborne, Nat McAllister, Charlie Hermann and Kristy Scaddan. And a warm welcome to the new members – Bec deRooy (although Bec was on the committee some years ago), Carissa Moore, Claire Ditri, Lauren Peck, Paul Sonnekus, Cam Dunne and Alex Thompson.

Happily some former committee folk will still be around, actively supporting coordinators. DAF is a big complex event, needs a big committee to run it and we welcome all the help we can get. And while on that theme, there are places for more people interested in being involved in organising and marketing the festival throughout the year. DAF Secretary Chris Pemberton will be delighted to hear from you – contact her on admin@darlingtonartsfestival.com

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THE COST? Only $10 for four lines (no more than 40 words) and a special $5 rate for students.

It's easy – your Classified advert and $$$ need to be in the Review Box at Darlington Post Office by the 20th of the month. Look for details in the inside front cover to see how your can secure your spot in the next edition.

GARDENING, pruning, weeding, mulching, whipper snipping, gutters cleaned, general tidy up. **Phone Geoff 0409 088 936.**

60+ DANCE CLASS, MONDAYS 9.30am Darlington Hall, cost $15. All welcome, no experience needed. **Contact Lynne 0409 520 023.**

The Final 'Jazz in the Garden' with **Al Pithers**: 4.30pm to 7pm, Sunday 7 April at Two Birds! Enjoy Hot Keys and Cool Tunes with your BYO drinks and nibbles. Tickets $25. **Contact Meg 0439 904 267** to snag yours.

BUSHCARE INFO & MUSIC: Drop in 2pm to 4.30pm Sunday 14 April. This 2nd event in a series with registered Friends groups is at the Margaret Forrest Centre inside **John Forrest National Park**. Music by **Margaret D. Jones 0414 374 701**. More details: mixmargaret.com/bushcare.
Show us you car – see you there!

WANTED TO BUY: Old Noddy books by Enid Blyton. Please phone **Trea on 9299 6080**

Hypothetical

How on Earth?

After Terry's wife died, he raised their daughter Alice by himself. When Alice finished uni, she left home and, seeing that Terry was lonely, suggested he find someone share his life with.

Terry eventually met and married Veronica, but five years after their marriage they decided to part ways. They separated financially, with 50 percent of the property going to Veronica, but they did not file their divorce application.

One day while driving home from work, another vehicle swerved into his lane and Terry died in the crash.

Alice was shocked to learn that as Terry had no will and his estate was now worth $450,000, it would all go to Veronica under section 14(1)(2) of the *Administration Act 1903* (WA).

However, she also learned that as Terry's daughter, she was eligible to make a claim for provision from Terry's estate under section 7(1)(c) of the *Family Provision Act 1972* (WA).

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Engineering Marvel – Swan View Tunnel

The original Eastern Railway line from Guildford to Chidlow's Well was completed in 1884. With stations on the scarp at Greenmount, Smith's Mill (now Glen Forest), and Mahogany Creek the area soon became useful to those in the timber trade as well as orchardists and vignerons. By the 1890s it became clear, however, that the steep gradient of the railway line posed serious problems for the increasing number of heavily laden trains now traveling over the Darling Ranges. One remedy for this was to have locomotives at both front and back, pulling and pushing the train to the top of the scarp.

An infamous section of line near Boya became known as 'Cape Horn', after a number of accidents in which trains rolled backwards, left the tracks, and ended up wrecked with goods scattered over the scarp. One incident in April 1894 resulted in the derailment of ten trucks.

The newly appointed Engineer-in-Chief of Western Australia, C.Y. O'Connor, decided that a new route with easier grades was needed. The new route would begin at Bellevue, go through a 340 metre tunnel to bypass a granite barrier, and then follow the Jane Brook Valley. It would rejoin the original line at Lion Mill (now Mt Helena). Despite following Jane Brook, the new route became mistakenly known as the 'Mahogany Creek Deviation'.

Train Derailment 4 November 1942

The construction of the tunnel began by boring shafts from both sides of the hill. These shafts were joined on the 24th April 1895. In order to protect the insides of the tunnel from rock falls, it was lined with masonry with an arched ceiling made of bricks. While the brickwork at the eastern end of the tunnel bears the date 1895 the new deviation was not officially opened until the 22nd February 1896. From this time, the line through the Swan View Tunnel became the main line while the earlier route through Greenmount was retained as a branch line. The final cost of the Tunnel was £12 160 10s 7d.

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(See inside cover for details)

Glen Forrest Bridge Club (GFBC)

Bridge: The most popular card game of all time!

Paul Marston in the preface to his book Introduction to Bridge says "There are many good reasons to learn bridge. First and foremost, it is a fun game to play. It doesn't matter about your age or gender. This is why it is the most popular card game of all time.

The challenge of bridge is to communicate with your partner and to solve problems. This makes good exercise for the mind. It is widely known these days that the brain benefits from exercise just as much as the rest of the body.

While you can enjoy bridge at many different levels- it can be anything from a fun recreation to a highly competitive sport – you are always engaged with other people. So you will find that simply being a part of the game will broaden your circle of friends.

Another good thing about bridge is that it is an easy game to learn. It may be hard to master but it is not hard to learn well enough to enjoy a great social morning or afternoon.

There are also many good reasons to come join the members at the Glen Forrest Bridge club. First, we are a friendly and supportive club. This is important, because many people new to bridge may feel intimidated at the prospect of being a beginner in the game.

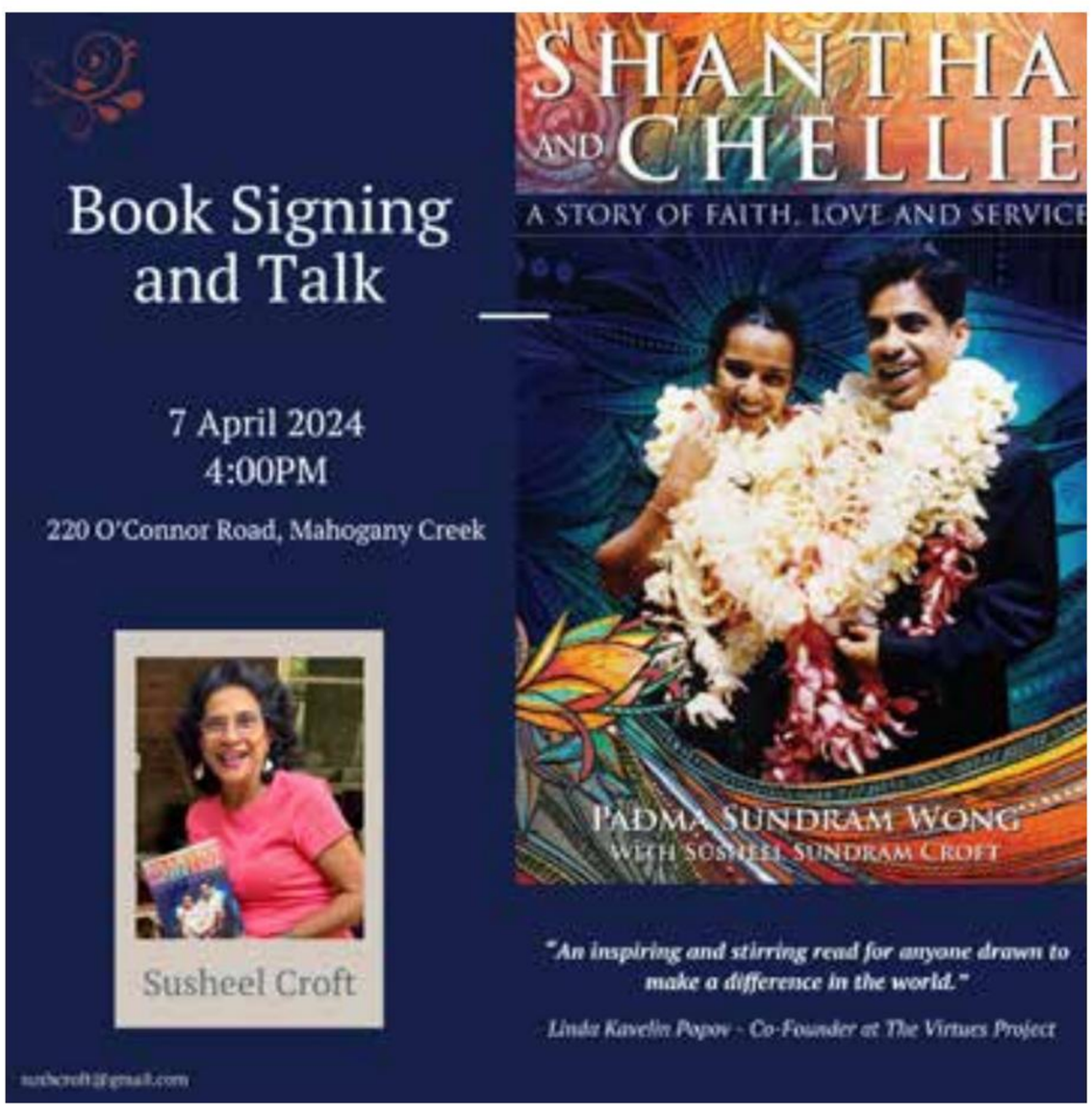
Membership and session fees at Glen Forrest Bridge Club are very modest and include membership of the Sports Club with the ability to enjoy all of their facilities.

The truth is many people play bridge just for fun. Come and give it a go at Glen Forrest, learn, refresh your skills, or just play. We look forward to meeting you.

Sessions Wed 9.30 -11.30, Wed afternoon, Mon afternoon.

Telephone Ronnie 0419961711 or Fred 0417 913 468 or check out the website Glenforrest.bridgeaustralia.org

Baha'i Community of Mundaring


Book Signing and Talk
7 April 2024
4:00PM
220 O'Connor Road, Mahogany Creek
Susheel Croft
SHANTHA AND CHELLIE
A STORY OF FAITH, LOVE AND SERVICE
PADMA SUNDRAM WONG
WITH SUSHEEL SUNDRAM CROFT
"An inspiring and stirring read for anyone drawn to make a difference in the world."
Linda Kavelin Popov - Co-Founder at The Virtues Project

Exciting news this month! We are delighted to announce the publication of a heart-warming new book documenting the life of late local resident, Shantha Sundram, and her husband Chellie.

Written by her daughter Padma Wong, and co-authored by their daughter Susheel Croft, whom many will know from her time in Darlington and her stunning open garden in Mahogany Creek, *Shantha and Chellie* is a touching story of faith, love and service.

From ancestral roots in India, to their time as pillars of the community in Malaysia and beyond, this story is told from an intimate family perspective. We see into the lives of two ordinary people, who arose to achieve great things, whose conviction to transforming the world through teachings of unity profoundly assisted the development of the Malaysian Baha'i community.

This brilliant and beautiful biography provides inspiration and a sense of possibilities although perhaps readers should also always have tissues on hand! Susheel says "It was an honour to work closely with my sister Padma, researching the threads of our parents' lives as they influenced many people around the world. Not only does *Shantha and Chellie* provide a written account, but it is also a remarkably beautiful book adorned with the artwork of our sister, local artist, Malini Parker".

Susheel will be hosting an intimate talk and book launch on Sunday 7 April at her home in Mahogany Creek where she'll share humorous, touching and engaging stories from Shantha and Chellie. This will be followed by a pot luck dinner. Please contact Susheel or Kevin Croft on 04020 23704 or email sushcroft@gmail.com.

If you'd like to explore the Baha'i vision of unity and connection, we hold regular study circles at homes in Darlington, Glen Forrest, Mahogany Creek and Mundaring. These are welcoming spaces to study and have spiritual conversations with friends from diverse backgrounds. All are welcome. More details on our Facebook page and website.

Mundaring Baha'i Community | mundaring@wa.bahai.org.au | www.bahai.org.au

Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre

Coming up at the KSP Writers' Centre

Writing Workshop: So You Want To Write Autofiction, Saturday 6 April 2024,1.00-4.00pm

Unlock the power of personal storytelling with this immersive autofiction workshop. Learn the art of blending fact and fiction, staying true to the emotional core of the story whilst creating narrative pace and propulsion. This workshop offers practical techniques, insightful discussions, and constructive feedback to help you craft your story and is suitable for writers at any stage of their writing interested in exploring the genre of autofiction, also known as autobiographical fiction/fictionalised memoir. **Jackie Bailey,** workshop facilitator, is an award-winning author, funeral celebrant, and ordained interfaith minister, living and working on Dharawal Country. Her debut autofiction novel, The Eulogy, won the 2023 NSW Premier's Literary Multicultural Award and was shortlisted for the UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing. Jackie also has a PhD in creative writing. Tickets from $35.

Become a KSP member:

Joining the KSP Writers' Centre is a wonderful way to give back to the Australian writing community. Fees help support KSP's general operations and ensures the sustainability of the Foundation. Membership also supports your individual journey as a writer by granting you significant discounts on KSP services and activities, as well as select discounts on services, products and events run by other WA writing organisations as part of the WA Writers United collaboration.

Membership Categories: Full Single ($80), Concession ($70), Family ($90), Country ($35)

Membership Benefits: Significant discounts on entry price to all events, readings, workshops, writing groups and other select events run by the Centre, WA Writers United discount on Westerly magazine subscription, opportunity to be published; many writing groups produce annual anthologies, Feel-good warm-fuzzies for helping to support the KSP Writers' Centre.

For more information on our residencies, competitions or other activities please visit the KSP website www.kspwriterscentre.com or phone the office on 08 9294 1872. KSP Writers' Centre is proudly sponsored by the Shire of Mundaring.

Forrest Darlings CWA

The Forrest Darlings branch of CWA welcomed a new executive committee at our recent AGM. Thank you to Sally Herzfeld (Treasurer) and Kate Herren (President) who stepped down after two years of voluntary service. Please welcome our new office bearers:

Vandra Stenton (President)

Rebecca Waters (Secretary)

Trisha Paice (Vice President)

Jennifer Woods (Treasurer)

Julie Avery (Sunshine Officter)

Heather Meiklem (International Officer)

2024 is the centenary year for the Country Womens Association in WA and there are a number of events planned, which kicked off with the launch of a very special book on International Womens Day last month. Women of Spirit - A Centenary of CWA Stories tells the stories of over 100 women who have played a significant role in the development and continuing strength of the CWA of WA in Western Australia since 1924.

Watch this space for news of local events later in the year.

Forrest Darlings is a friendly branch of the Country Womens Association which meets monthly at Darlington Pavilion.

Next meeting: Wednesday 20th March 7pm.

For more information follow Forrest Darlings CWA on Facebook.

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From Scrubland To The Fastest Racetrack In WA

In March, speaker Matthew Pavlinovich presented on the history of the Helena Vale Racecourse, a talk originally scheduled for 2023. Before Matthew delved into the site's history, little information was available about the Midvale location.

Established in 1897 by T.F. Elliott and S. Dick, who purchased 150 acres of scrubland from James Morrison, the Helena Vale Racecourse was a significant venture. Initially, it had 20 shareholders from Midland, Guildford, and surrounding areas. Architects and surveyors Denny and Sainsbury were responsible for its design. The racecourse's track gained a reputation as the widest and fastest in the State, becoming a prominent feature of the area from 1898 until its closure in 1983. The inaugural race, the Vale Handicap with a £60 prize over 5 furlongs, took place in February 1898.

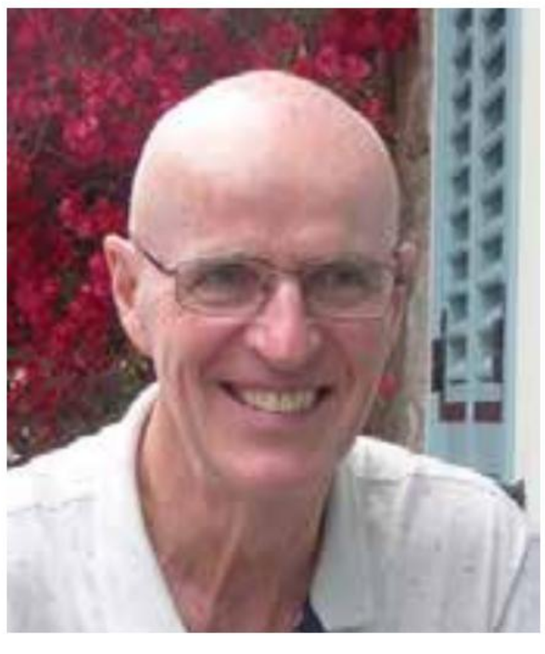
In 1920, Paddy Connolly acquired a controlling interest in the racecourse, maintaining it for over three decades. Connolly also owned the renowned stallion Blue Spec, which secured victory in seven Helena Vale Cup races and a Melbourne Cup.

Racing ceased during both World War I and World War II, as the facilities were repurposed for the war effort. The final race was held on March 22, 1969. However, the facilities continued to be utilized for horse trials and recreation until 1983, when the site was sold and developed into a light industrial area.

DHG values Matthew's research and extends gratitude for his presentation.

May Guest Speaker Martin Watson
"What Happened To Mh370?"
Wednesday 10 April @ 7.30pm Sharp
Darlington Lesser Hall, Owen Road, Darlington

Martin Watson, a retired Hydrographic Surveyor, served as the Data Centre Manager at Fugro Survey, the company that conducted the first comprehensive search for MH370. In his last role, he oversaw the collation, analysis, and presentation of data from offshore surveys to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB). Martin's upcoming presentation will delve into the search area, survey methods, equipment used, results obtained, and the challenging sea conditions encountered during the survey. His insights promise to offer a fascinating glimpse into the intricacies of the MH370 search efforts.



Refreshments will be served after Martin's talk. Gold coin donation appreciated at the door. You do not have to register for the talk, but it does help with our catering. For more information please call Val 9299 6868.

Honouring Our Soldiers On Anzac Day

In April, Darlington honors those who served in conflicts worldwide, commemorated on two honor boards in the large hall. The recently completed WW2 onwards honor board also pays tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Among the WW2 veterans, Leith Smith, Geoff Palmer, and Bill Mofflin stand out. These three young men, all born while their parents lived in Darlington, attended Darlington Primary School and were close in age. Leith, born in August 1921, was the first baby born in the Leithdale Estate. Geoff, born in July 1922, lived at 22 Constance Street (Sylvania), while Bill, born in November 1923, resided off Hillsden Rd on the property called Blackwood, known for its roses and open garden days. All three volunteered for the RAAF, with Leith and Geoff serving in Europe and Bill in the Pacific. Leith, flying Lancaster 1 bombers, was the first Darlington volunteer to be shot down and killed over Holland in June 1944. Geoff, flying Liberators, crashed, possibly shot down over Belgium, and died from injuries later that day in January 1945. Bill, serving in the Pacific, skillfully landed Beaufort planes on small islands, completing two tours before a fatal crash in Victoria in July 1945 during training, killing both pilots. Geoff and Bill were both Flying Officers, while Leith was a First Lieutenant. Their stories are just a few of the many honored on Darlington's honor boards, a testament to the bravery and sacrifice of those who served. For more information on Darlington's soldiers, visit the website's History Resources section under WW1 or WW2.

What's In A Name? Well, A Lot Actually.

Naming the road in the new Hudman Subdivision in Darlington was a unique endeavor for the Darlington History Group. We prepared a submission for the new property owner of Victor Rd, detailing the property's history from its ownership by Waylen and Amherst in 1890 to its more than 60 years under the ownership of the Prater family. DHG proposed naming the road after the longest-serving owner, the Prater family, as this name had not been used elsewhere in Darlington or the surrounding areas. In the submission, DHG acknowledged that surrounding roads were named after early Darlington settlers, such as Victor, Maslin, Hope (now part of Maslin), and Mills. The Shire suggested submitting a second name, and we chose "Lorella," the name of the property itself. Watch this space to see what unfolds! To learn more about the Prater family and their connection to the area, please explore their memoirs on our website (dhg.org.au).

Bric-A-Brac

We collect your stuff all year round, so we can have a marquee full of Great Stuff at the Darlington Arts Festival. Bric-A-Brac Queens Liz and Christine want your Great-Stuff-You-No-Longer-Need, so now the weather is getting cooler it's the ideal time to get sorting. Put your GSYNL in a box or two and call Liz 0427 942 491 or Christine 0490 793 015. If necessary, they can arrange pickup. Due to storage and handling issues, we no longer collect books for fundraising but will continue collecting bric-a-brac.

Do You Love Goofing Around With Words?

We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer who is interested in taking on the role of our Publicity Liaison. Abi will upskill you with what is required, such as regular Facebook posts, MailChimp mailouts and our quarterly Newsletter, plus other tasks associated with promoting our group. If you are interested, contact Val 9299 6868 or Lyn 9298 8604.

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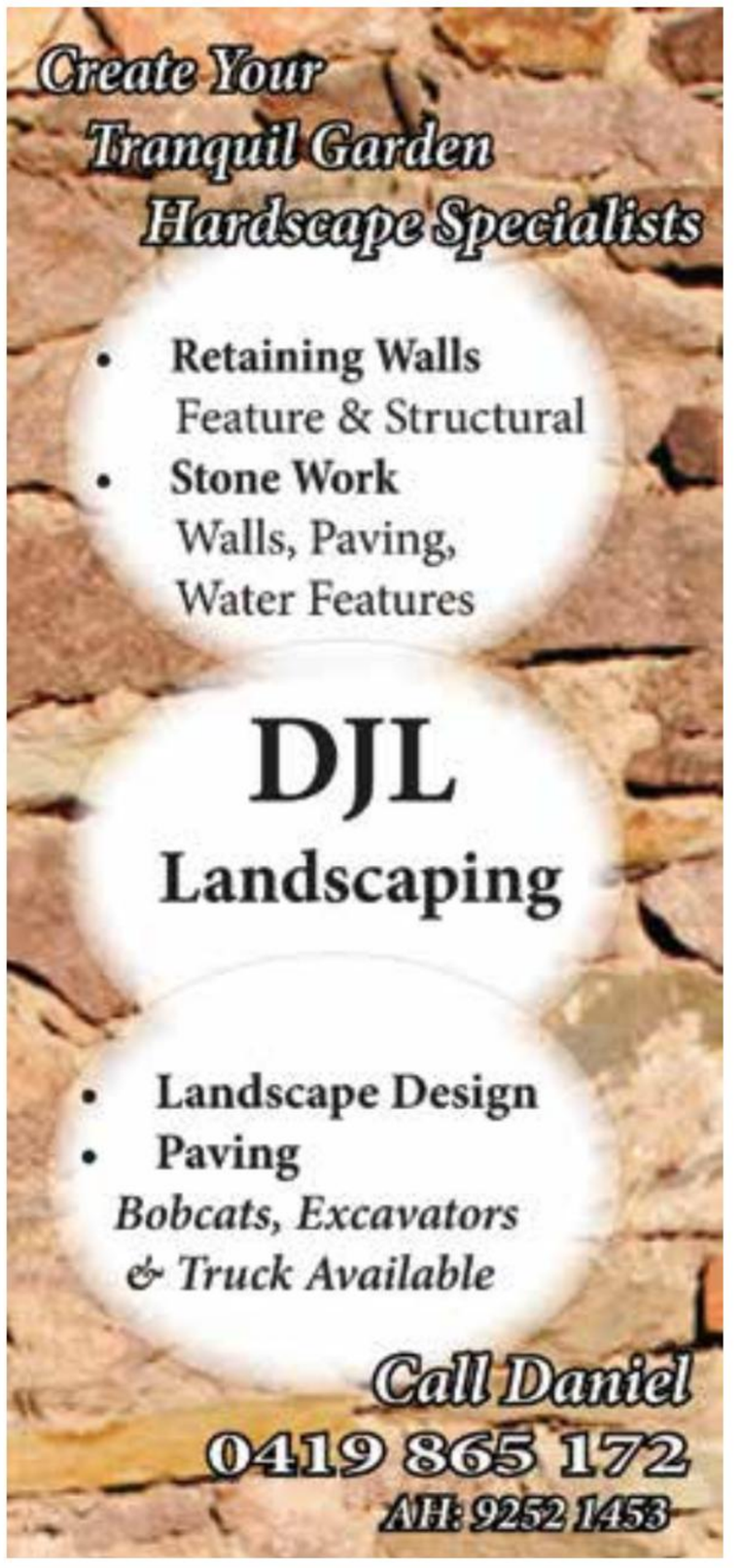

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Fear not the M word

Trea Wiltshire

How many, at the start of the year, made a resolution to do something they've never tried before – like signing up for the Darlington Half Marathon or the slightly less daunting 8km Fun Run?

This annual event – so well run by the WA Marathon Club – always brings a certain buzz to the village as event signs go up, the winner's arch rises on the oval as it did last month, and, in the weeks prior, runners gauge their fitness levels on the Heritage Trail and wonder about the weather on The Day.

WAMC figures confirm that a few New Year Resolution runners may well have been among the pack because the number of runners broke records – 546 overall, with 375 in the 21.1km Half Marathon (including an impressive 81-year-old) and 170 in the Fun Run, including nine under 16s – as you can see in our photo of the Parkerville family. Dad had run previously, watched by his kids; now they wanted to get in on the act.

We talked to first timers elated by crossing the finish line even if they were at the back of the pack, runners happy to be back on track after a long break, and those who just have to be in it every year – for the challenge and the friendships – and who aren't daunted by the M word.

There were familiar faces among the throng of visitors, some running, others helping to make it happen. Young soccer ace Max Peglar came in 25th in the Half Marathon; Alison Atkinson kept the runners on track and well away from her Community

Garden; the Hoschke boys exchanged tennis racquets for running shoes in the Fun Run while Alex directed traffic. And in the thick of things was WAMC member Simon Windsor, holding the mike as Race Director (and looking far more relaxed than last year when the portaloos failed to arrive) while the running Club's Pip Windsor was content to be "general dogsbody" (and quietly pleased at not to be running on a hot humid morning).

As it celebrates the 54th anniversary of the Darlington races (that start and finish on Darlington Oval) the WAMC would welcome YOUR participation in future events – or, if your challenge for the year is free diving or abseiling, you could always join the cheering crowds at an event that Darlington is proud to host. **www.wamc.org.au**

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Children's Program Dates – Term Two

Story and Rhyme Times and LEGO Club take a break for the school holidays from Friday 29 March. Sessions resume from Tuesday 16 April. Baby Rhyme Time sessions start at 9.30am and Story Time sessions at 10.30am. Boya Library sessions are on Wednesdays and Fridays. Mundaring Library sessions are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. LEGO Club is for 6 to 12 year-olds, and meets at Mundaring Lesser Hall on Thursdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Youth Resume Tips and Tricks – Getting Ahead of the Game with Aly Bannister,

Boya Community Centre, Friday 12 April, 10am –11.30am

For people aged 14 to 24 years. Aly Bannister, award-winning career coach, will help participants to gain the skills to create an effective resume. Participants will learn about what should be included in a resume, what can be left out, what prospective employers expect to see in a resume, and learn the essential ingredients to getting that crucial job interview. Bookings essential for this free workshop at https://120424b.eventbrite.com.au.

LOTE4Kids – 3000 books in 65+ languages,

LOTE4Kids is now available for library members. More than 3000 books in over 65 languages together with English translations are available in the comfort of your own home. Visit the LOTE4Kids website at https://bit.ly/LOTE4kidsMUN log in using your library card number. LOTE4Kids is also available as app for iOS or Android.

Hearing Checks with Hearing Australia

Could you be missing any of the sounds you love? Rain on a tin roof… early morning bird calls… a baby's hiccup. These are the sounds that connect us to our world and that make us happy. We're pleased to host Hearing Australia conducting free *hearing checks for adults at:

- *Boya Library, Monday 15 April, 10am – 2pm*
- *Mundaring Library, Friday 19 April, 10am – 2pm*

Bookings are not required, but are strongly encouraged in order to avoid possible wait times. Contact Boya Library on 9290 6755 or by email at gills@mundaring.wa.gov.au.

Contact Mundaring Library on 9290 6780 or by email at mills@mundaring.wa.gov.au.

*A hearing check is a screening that helps identify people that may have hearing loss.

An Evening with Dr Alex Boyd - Photographer and Artist

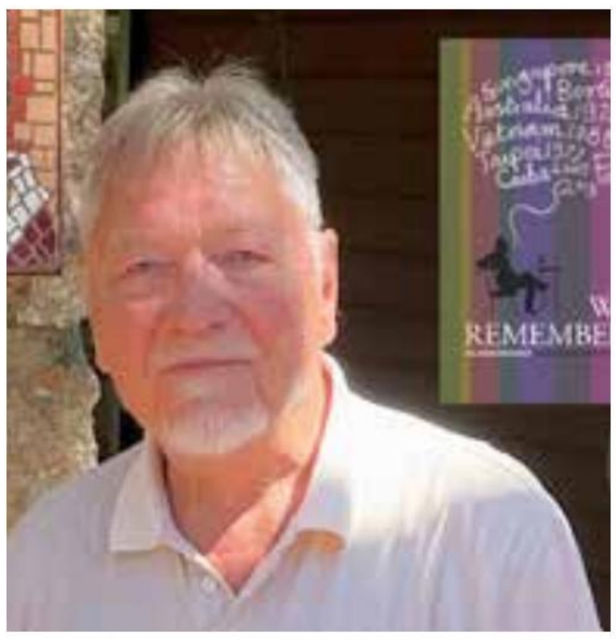
Boya Community Centre, Thursday 18 April, 6pm – 7.15pm

Alex Boyd is a photographer, writer and artist. He has published several books, and his work is included in public and private collections including the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, The Royal Photographic Society at the V&A, and the Yale Center for British Art. Alex is known for his extraordinary photographic work using the wet-plate collodion process. The Point of Deliverance is his latest work published in 2023. Alex will discuss his latest book and his work. Bookings essential at https://150424b.eventbrite.com.au.

A Morning Tea with Folker Krueger,

Boya Community Centre, Monday 22 April, 10.30am – 11.45am

Do you like travelling, different cultures, adventures, good food and wine? How about taking an imaginary flight in a glider, or even a vintage Tiger Moth? Do you enjoy quiet moments to read short stories presented with a wry sense of humour? If yes, you will get to know about the exciting life of a German immigrant who never stopped exploring what the world presented to him. Folker pursued his passion for telling stories in putting together his latest work, Well Remembered: a Kaleidoscope of Short Stories about his adventures, anecdotes comical and touching, and wry observations from his work and life all over the globe. Bookings essential at https://220424b.eventbrite.com.au.



Library Social Craft and Jigsaw Groups

Do you love to knit or crochet? Or maybe, embroidery is your thing. Perhaps you love doing jigsaws. The library social groups for adults meet weekly and offer you the opportunity to work on your projects in the company of others.

The groups are self-guided in that they are not classes or workshops, but an opportunity to share a cuppa and a yarn while you work on current project or one of the many library jigsaws. No bookings are necessary, and light refreshments are included. Details are:

- *Boya Library Knit and Crochet Group - Mondays, 10am to 12pm*
- *Boya Library Embroidery Group - Mondays, 1pm to 3pm*
- *Mundaring Library Knit and Crochet - Wednesdays, 10am to 12pm*
- *Mundaring Library Jigsaw Group - Wednesdays, 1pm to 3pm*

Did You Know About the Library Jigsaw Collection?

The libraries have over 140 jigsaw puzzles available to borrow. Have a browse through our collection of jigsaws in the libraries or online at https://bit.ly/MUNJigsaws. You can reserve them and borrow them in the same way as you can with other library items. Jigsaws may be borrowed on Adult and Young Adult Memberships. Two jigsaws can be borrowed at one time for three weeks and can be renewed if there are no reservations for them.

Love Craft? The Libraries Have a Great Selection of Craft Books

The libraries have a strong collection of great craft books, whether it's quilting, embroidery, knitting, crochet, print-making, or beading and more. There's a range of physical books or eBooks (and magazines). Check out the library catalogue at https://bit.ly/SOMeLib.

Mundaring | Midland Junction Arts Centre

MUNDARING ARTS CENTRE

Mundaring Arts Centre | 7190 Great Eastern Hwy (corner Nichol Street)
9295 3991 | mundaringartscentre.com.au
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday and Sunday 11am - 3pm

Till 21 Apr 2024

DRAWN | Celebrating the rich cultural heritage nurtured within the Shire, the Mundaring public Collection is an archive of creativity and inspiration fostered throughout the years. Through Drawn, works by George Haynes, Merrick Belyea and Ric Spencer join this prestigious anthology. Drawn showcases the distinctive language of drawing and features WA artists George Haynes, Merrick Belyea, Nic Compton, and Ric Spencer.

TREE OF LIFE | Utilising her own unique pictographic language through linocut and painting, artist Una Bell creates artworks that act as a catalogue of flora and fauna endemic to the Perth Hills.

Drawn and Tree of Life exhibition artists at the opening. (L-R) Ric Spencer, Jen Kerr (MAC Inc), Una Bell, Nic Compton, Shire President Cr Paige McNeil and Cr Prapti Mehta. Image by Brad Coleman.

Coming up:

Meet the Artists:

DRAWN | Sunday 7 April | 1 – 2:30pm | $5 or $4.50 MAC Inc. Members

Please visit our website for workshop and public program details and to book | **mundaringartscentre.com.au**
7190 Great Eastern Hwy (corner Nichol St) Mundaring | Tue - Fri 10am - 5pm, Sat & Sun 11am - 3pm

Midland Junction Arts Centre
MANAGED BY MUNDARING ARTS CENTRE INC | SUPPORTED BY CITY OF SWAN

Midland Junction Arts Centre | 276 Great Eastern Hwy (corner Cale St)
9250 8062 | midlandjunctionartscentre.com.au
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday 11am - 3pm

Till 5 May 2024

Visitors enjoy artworks by Dianne Jones as part of Re.Collection. Image by Robyn Jean.

RE.COLLECTION | Curated by Samara King, this celebration of the endurance of Aboriginal art and culture, and connection to Country, opened to an appreciative crowd, welcomed by Uncle Elvis Yarran. Displayed in two distinct halves, West Gallery features archival photographs from the nineteenth and early twentieth century sourced from the Returning Photos research project (ipp.arts.uwa.edu.au). In the East Gallery, commissioned artworks by First Nations artists Dianne Jones, Jarnda Councillor-Barns and Katie West demonstrate the diverse reimaging of archival photography in understanding Indigenous notions of place, art and history.

Workshops:

MJAC kicks off in April with School Holiday workshops on 11 April (ages 6-11yrs) and 12 April (ages 12-16 yrs) plus a range of workshops in drawing, portraiture, ceramics, mosaics, printmaking, book binding and more for ages 15+ starting in Term 2.

Coming up:

KISS Club | Performance 10 & 11 April

School Holiday Workshops | 11 & 12 April | 10am - 1pm | $50 or $45 for MAC Inc. Members

Swan Open Studios at MJAC | 19 - 21 April

Life Drawing Drop-in Sessions
Every fortnight 18 Apr, 2 May, 16 Mar, 30 May, 13 Jun | 10am - 1pm

Still Life Drawing Drop-in Sessions
Every fortnight 25 Apr, 9 May, 23 May, 6 June, 20 Jun | 10am - 1pm

Stitched & bound Artist in Residence | 30 April – 14 July | The Veranda Studio turns into a hub of textile joy when ten of the *stitched & bound* artists open their arts practice to visitors.

Please visit our website or scan the QR code for a full list of creative workshops and public program details and to book.

midlandjunctionartscentre.com.au

The Darlington Club

2024 marks the 20th anniversary of the Club. The original Constitution of the Club was signed by 13 founding members on the 19th November 2004. Notably one of the founding members was Dr Michael (Mike) Jones, now retired and living in Karrinyup.

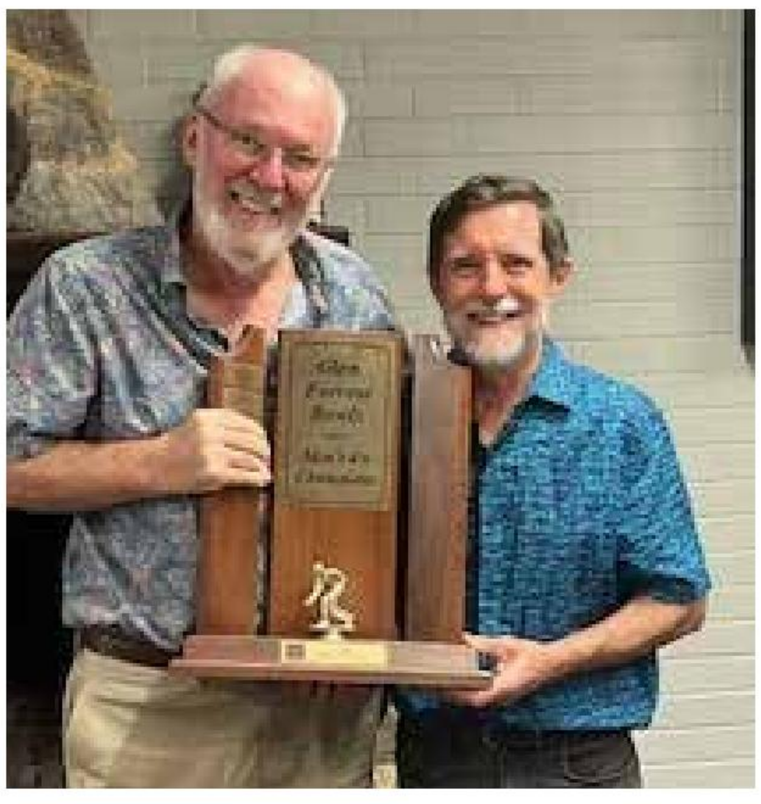
It was through Mike's initiative that a public meeting at the hall was organised in 2004, the purpose to form a Club where Darlington residents could meet and enjoy social times. Mike becoming first President of the Club. First signatory on the Constitution was Cliff Burns. To his credit Cliff wrote the Constitution and was a long serving committee member. Another familiar name amongst the 13 is David Lavell, a former past president of the Club and currently Vice to his wife Sue Lavell.

So, we need to celebrate this anniversary and will do later in the year.

However, and on the occasion, it is timely to reflect upon some of the achievements and activities supported by the Club.

During the past 20 years, the Club moved form its first home at the old Bakery next to the Liquor Store to its present home in the Lesser Hall. Members furnished the hall, of note was Chris Pemberton's contribution as Secretary in acquiring original furniture. Chris was well supported by Julie Stuurstraat who sourced a great deal of the furniture. Through Club initiatives the Lesser Hall and Main Hall occupancy grew considerably to a point where Darlington Hall was the number one used hall in the Shire attracting considerable revenue.

The Club has held many events including the following: A revisited Pub Night that was popular in the hall 30 years ago; Bush walks, Guest Speakers, Games and Movie nights, Beer, Wine and Champagne tents at the Darlington Arts Festival, Food Theme nights, Bavarian Beer Fests, Christmas parties, Guest musicians, Music concerts including strong support from Glen Whisson's Blue Manna band.



The raison d'etre for Darlington people to socialise on a Friday night was strongly supported. A welcome kit was soon devised to promote Darlington and the Club amongst new arrivals in Darlington. Philanthropy was soon added to the Clubs reason to exist, and the Club has donated approximately $50,000 over the past two decades to worthy causes. Beneficiaries include Stoneville/ Parkerville Bushfire Appeal, Darlington Volunteer Bushfire Brigade, Darlington Arts Festival, Darlington History Group, Community Garden and many more local community organisations and charities afar. Of note are the following which are framed cheques that reside in the Lesser Hall.

Darlington School – Revamp the Amp project	$1,512.41
Royal Flying Doctor Service	$3,501.65
Darlington Volunteer Bushfire Brigade	$6,764.05
Save the Children Fund	$1,512.41

Stayed tuned for notes on the 20th Anniversary celebration.

Contact Sue on 0439 273 213 or email susanlavell10@gmail.com
or Sue Bennetts, Secretary on 0407 920 930 email garrysue24@iinet.net.au

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Darlington Dibbler Girl Guides

Inspiring girls to discover the best in themselves and make positive contributions to their community.

The Girl Guides had an interesting evening following a path behind the Bilgoman Pool to discover the well. Bilgoman is Noongar for 'watering place'.

The tea tree swampy area has long been a place where people have gathered, drawn to the water located there. This name was recorded by Philip Chauncy in 1846 when he surveyed the York Road, what is now Great Eastern Highway. Chauncy was accompanied by a Noongar guide who helped him find water and provided the Noongar names of various sites. Chauncy's party dug out a well, naming it Bilgoman Well.

Thanks to a community grant from the Shire of Mundaring, we have been sewing polar fleece pouches for Blue Gum Wildlife Rehabilitation. The girls measured out pouch patterns to cut and sew three different sized pouches. We managed to complete around 20 pouches.

A HUGE well done to the girls who had a fantastic weekend at the Kent St Weir completing their Trefoils 1 and 2 in Canoeing. It was beautiful weather on the river and the girls thoroughly enjoyed their outdoor adventure! Congratulations also to Hummingbird (Michelle) who is our new leader in training.

We welcome new girls aged from 7-12 years. We meet at Kathleen Skipsey Hall – on Glen Road, Darlington on Tuesdays from 6pm to 7.30pm during the school term. If you have any queries regarding Darlington Dibbler Girl Guides please contact Karen on 0403233907 or enquire at Girl Guides WA.

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Technical Specifications*

1. 'Print' (or 'High') resolution PDF preferred (high-resolution JPG acceptable); (High resolution EG: An A4 (210x297mm) page should be a minimum of 10mb)
2. Fonts either embedded or converted to outlines (critical);
3. Colours set as CMYK (preferable) or RGB;
4. Images embedded (critical); and
5. Border 'keyline' optional.

(*Contact Production Manager for any clarification of specifications.)

Advertisement Specifications

The Darlington Review has been praised in State Parliament. It is a well-loved institution informing and binding the community since the 1950s - and it's the very best advertising option, along with word-of-mouth.

The Darlington Review is delivered free to all local households and our low advertising rates makes it easily affordable. We have it on good authority from local tradies that it's the only advertising you may need to do. If you are interested and want further information get in touch with our Advertising Manager **Julie Stuurstraat: 0412 225 613**
advertising@darlingtonreview.com.au

DARLINGTON REVIEW

What's on at the Hub of the Hills for over 55's in April

Summer Delight - Light Lunch | 9 April | 11am to 11.45am | $2
Directly after the Coffee Morning join us for either quiche and salad or sausage rolls and salad.

Coffee Morning Conversation | 23 April | 9.30am to 11am | Free
How prepared are you for emergencies? The Shire invites you to have a conversation about local natural disaster risk, how prepared you are for emergencies and your support needs in everyday life.

Over 55's Drop-In | Wednesdays | 9.30am to 11.30am | Free
A safe area for seniors to have a chat, read the paper, play board games or complete puzzles. Tea and coffee available.

MAY EVENT

High Tea & Book Cafe
Tuesday 28 May
9.30am - 11am

Raising funds for the Cancer Council as part of their Biggest Morning Tea campaign.

The Hub of the Hills, 8 Craig Street, Mundaring
9290 6683 cso4@mundaring.wa.gov.au | Officer present on:
Tuesday 8.30am to 11.30am | Wednesday 9am to 12pm | Thursday 10am to 2pm

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This past term has been all about keeping cool in the summer, and all the groups have been creative in doing that while having adventures and learning new skills!

Venturers have upped skills with a number achieving Stage 5 in Aquatics, and increasing the snorkelling prowess, as they prepare for a day on the water trails at Rottnest

.

Scouts have been learning new kayaking skills, with training through the Scouts WA Adventure Activity team, and completing a day on the river at Woodbridge. Next they're preparing for Swantiki, a Scouts WA run rafting event on the river at Bayswater.

Cubs and Joeys kept up tradition with community and environment as an important part of scouting, participated in Clean Up Australia Day March activities around the Darlington bush and Glen Road.

Are you a signwriter or knows someone who is? Since some renovations a couple of years ago, we no longer have the Kathleen Skipsey signage on the hall, and we'd like it back! Local legend Sally Herzfeld was very involved in Guides for many years, and knew Kathleen Skipsey well, so we're working with Sally to try and get her name back. If you have any ideas, please contact Julia at the Scouts Group committeecoordinator@darlingtonscouts.com, or Sally alisonherzfeld@gmail.com

Fundraising

Fundraising helps scouts attend activities at a subsidised rate, provides equipment, and keeps the aircon running! We appreciate the community support, so please keep an eye out when we are fundraising, such as:

- Bunnings Midland sausage sizzle on Saturday 27th April
- Community Bank Mundaring raffle tickets through April - June
- Containers for Change collection at the Kathleen Skipsey Hall or C10301799

Darlington Scouts are open to boys and girls, comprising four sections:

• Joey Scouts	(age 5-8)	Monday
• Cub Scouts	(age 8-11)	Wednesday
• Scouts	(age 11-14)	Thursday
• Venturer Scouts	(age 14-18)	Friday

The sections usually meet at the Kathleen Skipsey Hall on Glen Road, Darlington, in a lovely bush setting on the creek line, with a fire pit and ample opportunity for getting amongst nature.

The Scouts meet weekly during school terms, and there are often extended weekend and school holidays camps, hikes and other activities on offer. If you have a child that may be interested in coming along, you can have a trial few visits before making a commitment. We do ask parents to take turns in helping with activities, and this may be at their weekly session, or it may be helping with a camp or other weekend activity.

You are welcome to come along for a couple of weeks before making a commitment to join. For information contact **membership@darlingtonscouts.com**, or **www.darlingtonscouts.com** or the **Darlington Scout Group Facebook page**.

Darlington Venturers also have their own Instagram page, so if you are over 14, and interested if what they do, please look them up: **@darlingtonventurers**

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Physics of Technology - Class 9

Science is about asking questions and considerately speculating on the answer.

During lessons, we have explored and discussed many questions about the operations, uses and applications of the many technologies that we find around us. There has been a specific focus on the telephone and the internal combustion engine as these machines have played an important and integral part in our society and the way we move and communicate (for better and for worse).

The Class 9's have learned about the groundbreaking experiments of scientists like Michael Faraday, who brought Faraday's Law of Induction to the world, which formed an important basis of modern technologies such as the microphone and the speaker of the telephone.

In addition to this learning, the students began exploring the internal combustion engine by dismantling a four-stroke engine from a petrol lawnmower to observe how it works. The dismantling process was messy, invoked curiosity and questions, and was lots of fun!

This week we will be wrapping up the Main Lesson with a detailed exploration of the stages of the four-stroke engine and how it relates to the petrol cars of today.

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Gone are the days of unsavoury and lacklustre lunches. With the care and dedication from our canteen manager, Ros Tooth, our school canteen focuses on one key ingredient – freshness!

Ros ensures nothing but the best foods are selected using high-quality, fresh ingredients locally sourced (where possible). Menu items are chosen that minimise additives and preservatives with consideration of the Department of Education's food traffic light system. And most of the dishes are made from scratch in the Darlington Primary School kitchen – even healthier offerings for our kids.

Just like a restaurant, Ros adjusts the menu to cater for the different seasons and produce. Operating three days a week the menu differs on each of those days. An example of menu offerings includes apple slinkies, vegetarian sausage rolls, sushi (chicken and tuna), lasagne, macaroni cheese, salad sandwiches and wraps, fruit, carrots, home-made popcorn, rice crackers, home-made cake and bliss balls.

The P&C operates the school canteen on a 'not for profit' basis. Ros is supported by volunteers and is always in of need help. Offering some time in the canteen is a great way to get involved at the school. Tasks include making sandwiches, rolling sushi, easy food prep and counter service over recess and lunch. The best part about volunteering is a free lunch for yourself and if your kids attend Darlington Primary School, they get a free lunch too!

If you would like to volunteer at the canteen, please contact our president Lucy Banner at president@dpspc.org.au to discuss further.

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MCC offers a rich and holistic educational experience for young learners in their early years.

These include:

1. **Bushwalks and Connecting with God's Creation:**

   Incorporating outdoor experiences like bushwalks provides children with physical activity and fosters a deep connection with the natural world. Exploring nature stimulates curiosity, observation skills, and a sense of wonder. It can also instil values like respecting the environment and understanding God's creation.

2. **Learning through Play:**

   Play is crucial in early childhood education. It allows children to explore, experiment, and make sense of the world around them. Children develop social, emotional, cognitive, and physical skills through play. Play-based learning encourages creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking, all essential for a well-rounded education.

3. **Explicit Teaching of Language Skills:**

   The early years are a critical period for language development. Explicitly teaching language skills helps children build a strong foundation in communication, vocabulary, grammar, and comprehension. Activities such as storytelling, conversations, and exposure to diverse texts contribute to language enrichment. We offer a targeted program to build oral language skills from Pre-Kindy.

4. **Science of Reading:**

   The Science of Reading emphasises evidence-based practices to teach reading effectively, including phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Understanding how children learn to read and tailoring instruction accordingly can significantly improve literacy outcomes.

5. **Talk for Writing:**

   Talk for Writing is an approach that combines oral language development with writing skills. It involves three stages: imitation, innovation, and invention. During the imitation phase, students learn a text model by heart. In the innovation phase, they adapt the model with changes. Finally, in the invention phase, they create their original pieces. This approach nurtures creativity, language proficiency, and writing confidence.

6. **PLD:**

   PLD provides an Australian, evidence-based approach to Structured Synthetic Phonics (SSP) for primary school educators. Aligned with the Science of Reading, PLD's SSP approach extends from the junior primary years through to the upper primary years, thereby facilitating a whole school approach. Through implementing this program in our classroom, students engage in one-minute explicit instruction activities regularly throughout the day to develop a solid foundational understanding of phonemic and phonological awareness skills and concepts.

7. **You Can Do It! Education:**

   'You Can Do It! Education' is an Australian social-emotional learning program that maximises success, positive relationships and wellbeing. Students meet the characters '*Gabby Get Along*', '*Connie Confidence*', '*Pete Persistence*' and '*Oscar Organisation*'. By using these characters' corresponding puppets, students are introduced to the social and emotional skills of *getting along, confidence, persistence* and *organisation*, what they look like, and how they can be developed.

8. **Heggerty:**

   "Heggerty" is a program developed by Dr Michael Heggerty that focuses on phonemic awareness instruction for young learners. Phonemic awareness is recognising and manipulating individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken language. This skill is foundational for learning to read and write.

9. **Animal Fun:**

   Animal Fun is a movement program to help kids aged 3-6 improve their gross, fine motor and social skills. This program was designed by physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and psychologists from Curtin University's Health Sciences Faculty.

Integrating these components creates a holistic and effective early years teaching approach. We aim to create a learning environment that nurtures academic skills and a sense of wonder, empathy, and connection to the world around us. Commitment to outdoor experiences, play-based learning, language development, and evidence-based practices will undoubtedly have a positive and lasting impact on the young minds enrolled in our Early Years Program.

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Sculpture by the Sea Excursion

Students in Wattle (Years 1-2) and all our Secondary school (Years 7-12) embarked on an exciting journey to Cottesloe to visit the Sculpture by the Sea exhibition. With over 70 artworks from around the world on display at Cottesloe beach, students were exposed to a variety of sculpture styles, techniques and cultures. The many creative ideas and processes in the exhibition should provide great inspiration for the students' own sculptural work this semester.

The Wattle students found humour in 'Dave' with the unicorn, discussed environmental themes with the bin sculpture, and felt inspired by the colourful balga sculpture. Each artwork sparked different conversations, from reflections on the universe with the oval egg sculpture, to playful interactions with the metal wings. The experience concluded with students drawing their favourite sculptures, eager to create their own inspired artworks.

Some shared their favourite moments…

"My favourite artwork was the wooden bell. It was very big. We could hide in it. I also liked the artwork which spins. It made me feel happy."

"My favourite sculpture was the rainbow trees. They had lots of colours. They had red, yellow, orange, blue and green. They were very pretty."

The Secondary students had the chance to interact with practising artists. One of the sculptors was present at the exhibition, offering insights into their creative process, inspirations, and the stories behind their works. For students, this direct interaction with artists provides invaluable glimpses into the world of professional artistry, fostering a deeper appreciation for the dedication and craftsmanship required to bring sculptures to life.

We expect that this encounter not only widened the students' artistic perspectives, but also ignited their enthusiasm for creativity, paving the way for their individual exploration and innovation.

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Friends of Darlington Station Reserve (FODS)

We had a visit from former FODS Coordinator Phil Vile on Saturday on the occasion of his birthday. We love it when our former Friends (FODS) keep in touch and especially when they come to visit, and that is often in Phil's case. We asked Ranjana at The Hive to prepare a lunch platter to help us celebrate and we all recommend you do the same for your celebrations. What a great spread we shared!

Phil's birthday celebrations and the birthday platter

Thanks to Landcare team members, Chris and Noah and Jane from FODS, the Darlington Station Reserve is ready for Easter!

After a record breaking dry, excessively hot summer, we filled three trailer loads of kindling materials and dry leaves and did some much needed watering whilst we were about it.

Many of the desiccated plants will remain in situ until we've observed whether they respond to the first rains, indicating they

Jane and Noah with one of the loads for the tip

are alive, just! This practise is on the advice of Natalie at Muchea Plant Farm, Sabrina Hahn and the Landcare Team.

After Easter we will meet regularly on every 2nd Sunday morning from 8am to 10 am to maintain and continue to develop the Station Reserve. New members are always welcome and we also enjoy talking to you as you pass through the reserve while we are working. Do come down some Sunday and say hello!

If you have any questions or want to know how to join our group, you can contact Jane on 0477 987 048.

Diane

Welcome to Mainly Music at St Cuthbert's

WORSHIP IN THE STYLE OF TAIZE
6.30PM ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

The Taizé Community is an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz, a Reformed Protestant.

The Taizé community, though Western European in origin, has sought to include people and traditions worldwide. This is demonstrated in the music and prayers where songs are sung in many languages, and have included chants and icons from the Eastern Orthodox tradition. The music emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture, repeated and sometimes sung in rounds.

The next Taize services in St Cuthbert's are on 7 April and 5 May at 6.30pm

Rector: The Rev'd Julie Baker
T: 0459 471 894
E: rector@hillsanglicans.com

Parish Office: 6292 0074
Email: **info@hillsanglicans.com**
Mail: PO Box 77 Darlington, WA 6070
Services: 9am Sunday and 2pm Friday

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MAINLY MUSIC @ 9.30AM ON TUESDAYS IN THE PARISH CENTRE.

Another fun term of Tuesday morning singing, prancing, playing and morning tea has just ended and the team is taking a well earned rest for the next four weeks.

A highlight of the term has been the new bubble machines which produce a prodigious quantity of bubbles at the flick of a switch. It's understandably difficult to photograph a bubble but I hope you can catch a glimpse of them in the photos above and feel the excitement and wonder of the experience. That's a big ask I know, so come along and see for yourself one Tuesday morning.

A small team of parishioners have offered this gift to mothers, fathers, carers, grandparents and pre-schoolers of all ages for at least 10 years - we've actually lost count! It's an experience we love to share.

Do join us next term - we start up again on Tuesday 23 April at 9.30am in the St Cuthbert's parish centre.

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At Helena College, we believe that every child's educational journey is unique. That's why we offer a diverse range of opportunities to enrich each student's learning experience. Our Junior School Electives Program is designed to balance academic development with the exploration of new interests and the acquisition of fresh skills.

The Electives Program provides students in Pre-primary to Year 5 with access to campus-based activities that they would typically only find outside the school environment. For a modest additional cost, students can participate in visual arts, pottery, computing, classical ballet, mixed dance, drama, martial arts (including Tetsuryu and Taekwon-Do), as well as music classes such as drums, piano, and guitar. These activities take place during or after school hours on Thursdays and Fridays at our Darlington Campus, allowing families to enjoy weekends and evenings together.

The benefits of participating in extracurricular activities like our Electives Program are extensive. They provide opportunities to develop skills beyond academics, such as leadership, teamwork, time management, and communication. Research indicates that extracurricular involvement often leads to improved academic performance, as these activities can enhance concentration, motivation, and overall school engagement.

Furthermore, the Electives Program fosters social development by allowing children to meet peers with similar interests, make friends across different year levels, and build a sense of belonging. Many activities, such as martial arts and dance, also promote physical health by encouraging fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

Exploring new activities can boost children's confidence and self-esteem as they master new skills and overcome challenges. It encourages them to discover their passions and talents outside the classroom while teaching valuable life skills like resilience and perseverance.

If you're interested in learning more about our Electives Program or enrolling for 2025 and beyond, we invite you to attend one of our upcoming tours. Head online to book your spot.

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helena college tours

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